

**RESOLUTION NO. 3605-08**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNION CITY  
SUPPORTING EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY LEGISLATION  
INCLUDING THE MERCURY THERMOSTAT COLLECTION ACT OF 2008,  
ASSEMBLY BILL 2347**

**WHEREAS**, on February 8, 2006, California's Universal Waste Rule (CCR, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 23) became effective; and

**WHEREAS**, the Universal Waste Rule bans landfill disposal of universal waste that is deemed hazardous, such as household batteries, fluorescent bulbs or tubes, thermostats, and other items that contain mercury, as well as electronic devices, including video cassette recorders, microwave ovens, cellular phones, cordless phones, printers, and radios; and

**WHEREAS**, collecting and disposing of these banned products will result in costs to the City of Union City; and

**WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that the list of universal waste, determined to be hazardous and therefore banned from landfills, will continue to grow as additional products are declared hazardous by the State; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Union City supports statewide efforts to hold producers accountable for universal waste management costs; and

**WHEREAS**, there are significant environmental and human health impacts associated with improper management of universal waste; and

**WHEREAS**, extended producer responsibility (EPR) is a policy approach in which producers assume responsibility for management of waste products and which has been shown to be effective; and

**WHEREAS**, when producers are responsible for ensuring their products are recycled responsibly, and when health and environmental costs are included in the product price, there is a strong incentive to design and purchase goods that are more durable, easier to recycle, and less toxic; and

**WHEREAS**, it is timely to develop and support EPR legislation to address product stewardship for hazardous products currently banned from landfill disposal and those which will be added to the list of banned items in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, The Mercury Thermostat Collection Act of 2008, Assembly Bill 2347, was just introduced by Assembly Member Ira Ruskin with the support of Sierra Club California and the California Product Stewardship Council that provides consumers free and convenient options for recycling their waste thermostats in an environmentally-responsible manner.


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Union City hereby urges its legislative representatives to support extended producer responsibility legislation that shifts universal waste management costs from local government to the producer of the product, which will give producers an incentive to redesign products to make them less toxic and easier to recycle, including The Mercury Thermostat Collection Act of 2008, Assembly Bill 2347.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Union City at a regular meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 2008 by the following vote:

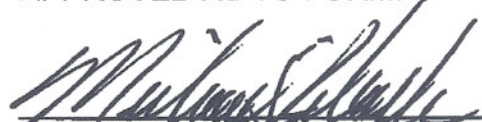
**AYES:** Councilmembers Dutra-Vernaci, Navarro, Valle, Vice Mayor Fernandez, Mayor Green  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None

  
MARK GREEN  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
RENEE ELLIOTT  
City Clerk  
DATED: 3-25-08

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
MICHAEL S. RIBACK  
City Attorney