



August 18, 2022

The Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 1256 (Wieckowski) Propane Cylinder Waste Reduction – Sponsor Bill Signature Requested**

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the listed organizations, we are pleased to request your signature on SB 1256 (Wieckowski), which would prohibit the sale of disposable propane cylinders, as defined, and would make the violation of this provision subject to specified civil penalties.

Local government solid waste and recycling operations are responsible for the collection, processing, recycling, and disposal of various forms of waste. Local agencies and their contractors – funded by local ratepayers – are responsible for managing residential and commercial waste streams. Those waste streams include many items, some of which are easily and affordably managed and some of which are not. One consumer product that has been a longtime concern is the single-use 1 lb propane cylinders typically used in camping stoves, lanterns, welding equipment, and more. It is estimated that between 40-60 million of these single-use 1 lb propane cylinders are sold in the United States every year. California accounts for roughly 12% of the population of the United States, so we can safely estimate that somewhere between 4.8 and 7.2 million single-use 1 lb propane cylinders are sold into California each year. Further, it is estimated that only about 1 million of these disposable cylinders are recovered and recycled, with the remaining cylinders ending up in landfills throughout the state.

Local, state, and national parks have long struggled with the impacts of improperly disposed single-use 1 lb propane cylinders. A 2019 article from Waste 360 reported that the Yosemite National Park collects between 20,000 and 25,000 tanks a year and trucks

them more than two hours away to a facility that processes low-grade hazardous waste. With a statewide average disposal cost of \$3.00 each, Yosemite spends at least \$75,000/year on this problematic product, not including collection and transportation costs. One of Yosemite's sustainability initiatives is focused on reducing improper disposal of propane tanks by promoting use of refillable tanks. As a result, the only cylinders available for purchase inside of Yosemite are refillable.

As noted earlier, SB 1256 would ban the sale of the "camping style" disposable 1lb propane cylinders in California beginning January 1, 2028. This system will operate much like existing exchange and refilling infrastructure that exists in California already (see <https://www.refuelyourfun.org/>). A robust refilling and exchange infrastructure has existed for many decades for the 20 lb (5 gal) "barbeque style" propane tanks, as there has never been a single-use option for that size cylinder. The same should have been for the 1 lb size. The single-use 1 lb propane cylinders are wasteful and when refilled, which is in violation of federal law, can be extremely dangerous and even deadly. Banning the sale of disposable propane tanks will move consumers to a more sustainable and safe option.

While there the measure does not go into effect until 2028, we are already hearing from the industry producing refillable 1 lb cylinders that there is already movement towards producing an adequate supply of refillable cylinders for consumers as a result of this legislative. California will be the first state in the nation to ban the sale of the single-use 1 lb propane cylinders, which will likely be replicated in other states, some of whom are monitoring the progress of SB 1256. Once again, California is leading the way on the push for sustainability and this bill will be another small step towards the state's sustainability goals. A signature from you on this important measure will guarantee the transition to the more sustainable option for 1 lb propane cylinders to continue.

For these reasons, the undersigned are pleased to ask for your signature on SB 1256.

Sincerely,



Doug Kobold, Executive Director  
California Product Stewardship Council



Vince De Lange, General Manager  
Delta Diablo



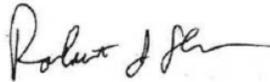
Jonathon "Josh" Simpson, Vice President  
Little Kamper, LP



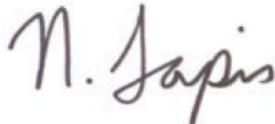
Shell Cleave, Founder  
Sea Hugger



Jordan Wells, Director of Advocacy and  
Communications  
National Stewardship Action Council



Robert Engler, Mayor  
City of Thousand Oaks



Nick Lapis, Director of Advocacy  
Californians Against Waste



Laura McKaughan, CRRA President  
California Resource Recovery Association



Larry Klein, Mayor  
City of Sunnyvale



Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director  
StopWaste



Kevin Bell, Deputy Executive Director  
Western Placer Waste Management Authority



Joe La Mariana, Executive Director  
Rethink Waste



Susan Stephenson, Executive Director  
California Interfaith Power & Light



David Farion, President  
California Waste & Recycle Association



Laura Ferrante, Government Affairs Advocate  
Resource Recovery Coalition of California



Blake Inscore, Chair  
Del Norte Solid Waste Management  
Authority



Leslie Lukacs, Executive Director  
Zero Waste Sonoma



Nate Miley, Vice President  
Alameda County Board of Supervisors