



March 18, 2026

The Honorable Heather Hadwick
 Member, California State Assembly
 1021 O Street, Suite 5710
 Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 2667 – SUPPORT
 As Introduced February 20, 2026**

Dear Assembly Member Hadwick,

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California, the League of California Cities (Cal Cities), Zero Waste Marin, Del Norte Solid Waste Management Authority, National Stewardship Action Council (NSAC), California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC), Los Angeles Unified School District, Californians Against Waste, Resource Recovery Coalition of California, Rural Counties Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority, Republic Services, Recology, Western Placer Waste Management Authority, the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), the County of Santa Barbara, and Parents Against Vaping (PAVE) we are pleased to support your Assembly Bill 2667 regarding vapes.

Assembly Bill 2667 seeks to protect children, young adults, and the public by: 1) Banning disguised vapes and vapes containing video display devices, 2) Providing an easier regulatory pathway for schools to properly dispose of vapes confiscated from students, and 3) Improving the safe collection, management, and proper disposal of vapes by local household hazardous waste (HHW) collection facilities.

Vapes are ubiquitous, commonly encountered in the waste stream, and must be managed as hazardous waste because they contain residual chemicals, batteries, and

electronic components. Vapes create real public health and safety risks when disguised or improperly disposed. Local government household hazardous waste (HHW) collection programs are intended to provide safe and convenient ways for residents and small generators to dispose of hazardous wastes like vapes.

Disguised Vapes and Video Game Vapes

Vapes are increasingly designed and marketed to appeal to minors and young adults - often in ways that are deceptive or intended to increase the level of addiction. Some vapes now contain integrated video games that are intended to increase the user's interaction with the device. Other vapes are manufactured to be nearly indistinguishable from common school supplies like highlighters and markers or household items like key fobs, watches, and even hoodies.

Disguised vapes are harder for educators to detect and also pose heightened fire risks for collection trucks and solid waste facilities. This is because vapes contain batteries that can explode violently and quickly cause massive amounts of damage. By being nearly indistinguishable from ordinary consumer goods, disguised vapes are much more likely to avoid detection and make their way into recycling facilities and landfills, which significantly increases the risk of compaction and fire.

By banning the sale of disguised vapes and video game vapes, AB 2667 will help protect children, promote school safety, and reduce the risk of vape-caused fires.

Vapes Confiscated by Schools

Schools often confiscate vapes that students bring from home, with some teachers reporting drawers full of devices that they don't know how to dispose. While the student or parent can dispose of the vape as HHW at a HHW collection facility, schools are not considered "households" and often generate too much hazardous waste to be able to use local HHW collection facilities. As a hazardous waste, there are few transporters and disposal opportunities available, which means it can be very expensive to properly manage and dispose of the contraband.

To address this problem, *AB 2667 directs the Department of Toxic Substances Control to evaluate opportunities to increase the safety and convenience for managing vapes confiscated from students by a school.* Schools and local governments need clear, implementable, and cost-effective solutions from the state for how to manage this growing waste stream.

HHW Collection Facility Management of Vapes

Vapes include batteries, circuitry, and fluid canisters, all of which have different hazardous traits. As such, they can be extremely expensive for local HHW programs to manage, with costs often reaching \$350 for a 5-gallon bucket. While the batteries and circuitry have value and are recyclable, the fluid canister is oftentimes considered acutely hazardous waste. Vapes could be managed much more cost effectively if HHW collection facilities were authorized to safely disassemble them, as the cartridge (which is often the most expensive to manage) could be separated from the batteries and circuitry and each component could be managed separately. This approach would allow far greater system efficiencies and significantly drive down program costs.

AB 2667 allows HHW collection facilities to safely disassemble vapes after consultation with local environmental health and fire agencies, provided the personnel receive proper training and the activities do not result in the unauthorized release of hazardous materials. AB 2667 merely authorizes HHW collection facilities to disassemble vapes if they believe it will reduce program costs. As such, AB 2667 could reduce local government HHW management costs and open the door for more convenient vape disposal opportunities.

For these reasons, we are pleased to support AB 2667.

Sincerely,



JOHN KENNEDY
Rural County Representatives of California
Senior Policy Advocate
jkennedy@rcrcnet.org



MELISSA SPARKS-KRANZ
League of California Cities
Legislative Advocate
msparkskranz@calcities.org



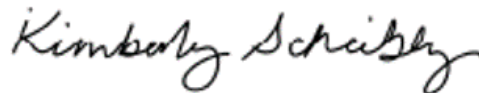
JOANNE BRASCH
California Product Stewardship Council
Director of Advocacy and Outreach
joanne@calpsc.org



HEIDI SANBORN
National Stewardship Action Council
Executive Director and CEO
Heidi@nsaction.us



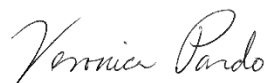
SASHA HORWITZ
Los Angeles Unified School District
Legislative Advocate
sasha.horwitz@lausd.net



KIMBERLY SCHEIBLY
Zero Waste Marin
Executive Director
Meilin.Tsao@MarinCounty.gov



TEDD WARD
Del Norte Solid Waste Management Authority
Director
tedd@recycledelnorte.ca.gov



VERONICA PARDO
Resource Recovery Coalition of California
Executive Director
veronica@resourcecoalition.org



TONY HACKETT
Californians Against Waste
Policy Associate
tony@cawrecycles.org



STACI HEATON
Rural Counties Environmental Services JPA
Deputy Executive Director
sheaton@rcrcnet.org



SCOTT SCHOLZ
Western Placer Waste Management Authority
General Manager
SScholz@wpwma.ca.gov



ELIZABETH ESPINOSA
County of Santa Barbara
Legislative Advocate
ehe@hbeadvocacy.com



MIKE CAPRIO
Republic Services
Director of Government Affairs - CA
MCaprio@republicservices.com



JULIA MANGIN
Recology
Director of Sustainability & Government
Affairs
JMangin@recology.com



DOROTHY JOHNSON
Association of California School
Administrators
Legislative Advocate
djohnson@ACSA.org



DR. MONICA WILSON, Ph.D
Parents Against Vaping (PAVe)
Regional Director – Education and Advocacy
monica@parentsagainstvaping.org

cc: The Honorable Damon Connolly, Chair, Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic
Materials Committee
The Honorable Marc Berman, Chair, Assembly Business and Professions Committee
Members of the Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee
Members of the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions
The Honorable Juan Alanis, California State Assembly
Josh Tooker, Chief Consultant, Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and
Toxic Materials
Robert Sumner, Chief Consultant, Assembly Business and Professions Committee
Gino Folchi, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus Office of Policy and Budget
Bill Lewis, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus Office of Policy and Budget