



November 23, 2020

Assemblymember Jim Woods
1036 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Email c/o: erin.dunn@asm.ca.gov

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO CONSIDER SPONSORING EMERGENCY
LEGISLATIVE RELIEF FOR CRV REDEMPTION SERVICES IN
HUMBOLDT AND OTHER SIMILARLY AFFECTED
COMMUNITIES.**

Dear Assemblymember Woods,

The Humboldt Waste Management Authority (HWMA) Board of Directors respectfully requests your consideration to sponsor emergency legislative relief, or other appropriate mechanism, to enable CRV Redemption services in Humboldt. The HWMA Board met Thursday, November 12, 2020 with the intent of approving a conceptual project for submittal to CalRecycle's "CRV Pilot Project" program. Unfortunately, HWMA was notified by CalRecycle that the last remaining pilot project slot had been awarded to another applicant on Tuesday, November 10th.

As previously described in our letter of October 5, 2020, Humboldt County recyclers need a solution which the CalRecycle CRV Pilot Project program wasn't designed to meet. That said, HWMA's staff presented a CRV Pilot Project concept proposal to HWMA's Board designed to propose innovative approaches to enable and enhance consumers' ability to conveniently redeem their CRV materials. This concept promoted the cooperation and involvement of all previously existing local recyclers in recertifying their facilities, as well as placement of reverse vending machines at select locations. We believe that the concept proposal has merit and could enable the return of CRV redemption opportunities to Humboldt County residents.

Until a comprehensive reform of CA's Beverage Container Recycling & Litter Reduction Act (aka "Bottle Bill") is approved and implemented, we encourage our state representatives to assist recycling centers through some form of temporary relief that provides recyclers in affected communities the ability to:

- Direct funds from those obligated retailers paying the \$100/day fine to support regional recycling centers.
- Be able to develop protocols for operation at recycling centers on an appointment-based model.
- Be eligible at each site to receive Handling Fees.

Humboldt Waste Management Authority

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- Increase to Allowable Daily Load Limits of CRV material to pre-2014 limits¹ for a period of no less than 9-months to allow recyclers/CRV redemption centers to accommodate the heavy demand built up since March 2020.
- Allocate CalRecycle's Penalty account (those retailers opting out of CRV redemption services) into a grant fund account to establish and support redemption opportunities in underserved areas.
- Allow underserved areas to receive higher Processing payments.

HWMA appreciates your efforts to date, will continue to work with State representatives to identify potential remedies on this matter and is available to assist in comprehensive Bottle Bill reform efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael P. Sweeney". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Michael P. Sweeney
Chairman

cc:

Governor Gavin Newsom
Senator Mike McGuire
Assemblymember Woods
California Association of Counties
California League of Cities
Rural County Representatives of California
HWMA Board of Directors
HWMA Member Agencies

¹ Customers may redeem up to Allowable Daily Load Limits of 100 pounds of aluminum or plastic beverage containers or 1,000 pounds of glass. As part of our conceptual proposal, recyclers were interested in proposing a temporarily increase of the daily limits to pre-2014 limits (500 pounds aluminum/500 pounds plastic/2,500 pounds of glass) for a period of six-months to address the accumulated materials north coast consumers currently have stored