(Insert Logo)

(Insert Date)

The Honorable Benjamin Allen

Member, California State Senate

1021 O Street, Room 6610

Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 501 – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Allen,

 On behalf of (Insert County/Organization), we are pleased to support your Senate Bill 501 regarding household hazardous waste.

 Senate Bill 501 establishes an extended producer responsibility program for manufacturers of certain types of products that become household hazardous wastes (HHW) at the end of their useful lives. SB 501 will require manufacturers of pesticides, aerosols, oxidizers, cleaners, adhesives, solvents, lubricants, compressed gas, lithium batteries, and vapes to provide a free and convenient collection and management system for those products.

 Household hazardous wastes require special handling and disposal because of the risks they pose to the environment if improperly thrown in the trash, poured down storm drains, or released into the environment. Local governments are responsible for the operation of local household hazardous waste collection programs, which offer residents free drop-off opportunities for HHW. These programs are expensive and put serious financial pressure on both the programs and local governments that operate them. The cost for local governments to manage some types of household hazardous waste can often approach or exceed the initial purchase price that consumers pay at the point of sale.

 Local governments and the solid waste industry have no control over which products will be introduced into the marketplace. SB 501 ensures that manufacturers bear financial responsibility for the management and disposal of the products they introduce into the stream of commerce. By compelling manufacturers to bear responsibility for these costs, and making proper disposal opportunities more convenient for residents, SB 501 will drive manufacturers to improve product design to make those products safer and easier to manage at the end of their useful lives.

 We are pleased to support SB 501 because it will significantly reduce local costs for managing household hazardous waste and increase convenience of safe disposal opportunities.

 Sincerely,

(Insert Name)

(Insert Title)

cc: Senator Catherine Blakespear, Chair, Senate Environmental Quality Committee

 Members of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee

 Eric Walters, Chief Consultant, Senate Environmental Quality Committee

 Scott Seekatz, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus

 John Kennedy, Senior Policy Advocate, Rural County Representatives of California