



**COUNTY OF  
SAN BERNARDINO**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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April 11, 2008

The Honorable Members  
Committee on Natural Resources  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **AB 2866 (De' Leon) –OPPOSE**

Dear Committee Members:

The County of San Bernardino, along with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and the Regional Council of Rural Counties, opposes AB 2866 (De'Leon) and respectfully requests your "no" vote when the proposed legislation comes before the Committee.

As you know, existing law requires landfill operators to pay the State \$1.40 per ton of disposed trash. Funds are deposited in the Integrated Waste Management Account for public purposes, chiefly waste reduction programs. AB 2866 would allow the California Integrated Waste Management Board to increase the cap on this solid waste disposal fee from \$1.40 to \$2 per ton on July 1, 2008. Revenue would be used for research and development of technology that may or may not relate to reducing the amount of waste disposed in landfills.

We share CSAC's concern that this bill would establish a precedent of increasing the tipping fee to fund programs not directly related to the reduction of waste disposed in California landfills. Additionally, the legislation would have a direct and significant financial impact on San Bernardino County residents. The County Solid Waste Management Division estimates a \$.60 per ton increase will cost ratepayers \$1 million annually.

The County Solid Waste Management Division already contributes a proportion of tipping fees to an account for landfill closure and post-closure activities as required by law. As you are aware, cities and counties that own and operate disposal facilities/landfills can access fees and taxes within their jurisdiction to pay for landfill closure and long-term post-closure care. Therefore, it is unlikely municipal landfill operators/owners would benefit from the Solid Waste Mitigation Fund proposed in AB 2688.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino opposes AB 2866 (De' Leon) respectfully requests your "no" vote when the item comes before you.

Sincerely,

**PAUL BIANE**  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

*The mission of the government of the County of San Bernardino is to satisfy its customers by providing service that promotes the health, safety, well being, and quality of life of its residents according to the County Charter, general laws, and the will of the people it serves.*