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March 22, 2023

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ERIN HANNIGAN

The Honorable Luz Rivas Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee 1021 O St., Ste. 4250 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT, AB 909 (Hoover) Solid Waste Disposal and Codisposal Site Cleanup Program

Dear Chairwoman Rivas,

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I write in support of AB 909, which would require the Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to initiate a program to collect and properly manage illegally disposed hazardous waste and household hazardous waste, as defined, regardless of whether they were co-disposed with nonhazardous solid waste.

AB 909 would expand CalRecycle's already existing and successful, Solid Waste Disposal Cleanup Program. While CalRecycle's Solid Waste Disposal and Codisposal Site Cleanup Program is a helpful tool for local governments to address illegal disposal sites, the program cannot currently fund the removal, abatement, and cleanup or handling of hazardous substances that are not codisposed with nonhazardous solid waste.

Local governments and private landowners occasionally discover illegally disposed hazardous wastes and household hazardous wastes that are not part of a larger solid waste disposal site. These items may include batteries, cleaners, electronic wastes, paints, pesticides, used oil, lamps, etc. While not encountered as frequently as nonhazardous waste, management and disposal costs for these materials are substantially higher and divert scarce local resources from other important programs.

AB 909 seeks to expand CalRecycle's Solid Waste Disposal and Codisposal Site Cleanup Program to additionally fund the cleanup and proper disposal of illegally dumped hazardous waste. Rather than create a new standalone grant program at the Department of Toxic Substances Control, which oversees hazardous waste management and disposal, AB 909 simply builds these changes into CalRecycle's existing program for ease of state administration and to create a one-stop shop for locals seeking financial assistance to undertake these cleanup actions.

Furthermore, the passage of AB 909 would also have a multi-benefit capacity for communities. For instance, AB 909 aligns with other legislative efforts. One example is that it would help California reach its 30x30 climate goals and climate commitments. There is also a public health benefit because it helps clean up and properly dispose of waste that can be harmful to communities; especially in areas near low-income communities, which are oftentimes disproportionately experiencing the effects of illegal dumping of materials.

For these reasons, Solano County is pleased to support AB 909.

Honorable Luz Rivas March 22, 2022 Page 2

Sincerely,

John M. Vasquez, Chair

Solano County Board of Supervisors

CC:

The Honorable Bill Dodd, Senator
The Honorable Lori D. Wilson, Assemblymember
The Honorable Josh Hoover, Assemblymember
Members, Assembly Natural Resource Committee
The Honorable Solano County Board of Supervisors
Terry Schmidtbauer, Solano Director of Resource Management
Karen Lange, SYASL Partners