



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

May 11, 2015

The Honorable Kevin Mullin
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3160
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: AB 45 (Mullin) Household hazardous waste – *Oppose Unless Amended*

Dear Assemblymember Mullin:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to express the City's ***oppose unless amended*** position on AB 45 (Mullin). Long Beach agrees household hazardous waste (HHW) must to be diverted from landfills and waterways; however, we are opposed to the one-size-fits all approach proposed in AB 45.

The construct of the “comprehensive program for the collection of HHW” described in AB 45 is quite limiting. The program does not take into consideration options that are available in, and may be unique to individual jurisdictions. Long Beach respectfully requests an amendment to the definition of a “comprehensive program for the collection of HHW”. The purpose of this amendment is to recognize the compliance of local jurisdictions that provide options for HHW disposal, as described in the bill dated April 30, 2015.

“Comprehensive program for the collection of household hazardous waste” means a local program that includes at least three of ~~may include, but is not limited to~~ the following components, in as part of a local jurisdiction’s efforts to collect HHW:

- (1) Utilization of locally sponsored collection sites.
- (2) Scheduled and publicly advertised drop off days.
- (3) Door-to-door collection programs.
- (4) Mobile collection programs.
- (5) Dissemination of information about how consumers should dispose of the various types of household hazardous waste.
- (6) Education programs to promote consumer understanding and use of the local components of a comprehensive program.

Long Beach invests in educating our residents on the harmful effects of improper HHW disposal and assists with proper identification of HHW. As a part of our responsible waste disposal practices, the City provides access to safe collection, recycling, treatment, and disposal of HHW. These programs are free, and publicly advertised to reach a wide range of audiences.



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While Long Beach recognizes the importance of safe HHW disposal, existing language in AB 45 is cause for concern. This bill will actually limit a City's ability to provide public safety, library, refuse and other essential services, or otherwise result in a refuse rate increase to Long Beach residents at a time when the community is recovering from the recent economic recession and cannot absorb the costs of a one-size fits all program, such as the one proposed in AB 45.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach respectfully opposes AB 45, and requests the amendment described above.

Sincerely,



Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Anthony Rendon, State Assembly, 63rd District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District