

AGENDA: AUGUST 18, 1998

DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS

## COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

GOVERNMENTAL CENTER

701 OCEAN STREET, SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 950604070

JOHN A. FANTHAM  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

(831) 454-2160

FAX (831) 4542385

August 11, 1998

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, California 95060

SUBJECT: LETTERS IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 681-O'CONNELL

Members of the Board:

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your approval of letters which were sent to Senator McPherson and Assemblyman Keeley (copies attached) in opposition to Senate Bill 681. This bill would change the State's Bottle Bill in a manner that would very adversely affect County recycling programs. Your Board has numerous times over the past years supported the Bottle Bill, including expansion to include additional types of beverage containers, such as Resolution 105-87 approved on June 9, 1987. These letters are consistent with your previous action; however, your Board never took formal action on this bill.

As SB 681 was scheduled for a crucial committee vote in late July, we took the initiative to fax these letters to our State legislators in time for our County's interests to be considered.

It is therefore recommended that the Board of Supervisors take action to oppose SB 681 -O'Connell, and by adopting the attached resolution, approve letters sent to Senator McPherson and Assemblyman Keeley urging opposition to SB 681.

Yours truly,

JOHN A. FANTHAM  
Director of Public Works

JS:mg  
Attachments

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:

County Administrative Officer  
copy to: Public Works  
LEM.WPD

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

On the motion of Supervisor  
duly seconded by Supervisor  
the following resolution is adopted:

RESOLUTION OPPOSING ENACTMENT OF SENATE BILL 68 1

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WHEREAS, the State of California has enacted the Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (the Act) which establishes solid waste management planning and program mandates for local governments, including a requirement to divert from landfill disposal 25 percent of the wastestream by 1995 and 50 percent by the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, the County is relying on the widespread collection and recycling of beverage containers of all types through the state beverage container redemption system as a key component of its landfill disposal reduction program used to meet these state mandates; and

WHEREAS, the County finds that the enactment of Senate Bill 68 1 would undermine the scrap market for plastic and glass by eliminating producers' responsibility for processing plastic and by reducing minimum content requirements for glass container manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, the County finds that state support for non-profit recycling activities will be eliminated and that the cost to county residents for state mandated landfill disposal reduction programs will be increased if Senate Bill 681 were to be enacted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz hereby opposes the enactment of Senate Bill 681.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz,  
State of California, this day of August 1998, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS

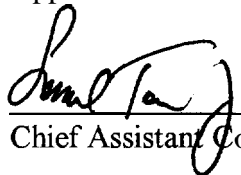
NOES: SUPERVISORS

ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of said Board

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of said Board

Approved as to form:

 8/4/98  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Assistant County Counsel

Distribution: County Counsel  
Public Works  
Senator Bruce McPherson  
Assembly Member Keeley  
Senator O'Connell  
County Administrative Office  
County Counsel  
Public Works, Solid Waste Division  
Californians Against Waste



July 27, 1998

HONORABLE FRED KEELEY  
CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLYMAN

State Capitol, Room 4139  
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 681 - O'CONNELL

Dear Assemblyman Keeley:

The purpose of this letter is to urge your no vote on Senate Bill 681 (O'Connell). To date the Bottle Bill has played a pivotal role in the County's recycling efforts and our County Board of Supervisors has consistently supported an inclusive and well-funded beverage container recycling program. SB 681 should be opposed because it eliminates financial support for recycling and does not expand the Bottle Bill program to include additional types of beverage containers. In particular, SB 681 should be opposed because:

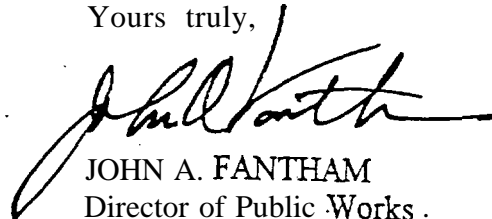
- It would eliminate grant funds for local government recycling activities. Examples of projects that would be adversely affected: the County's apartment recycling program was started with the help of a Bottle Bill grant; the County currently has a Bottle Bill grant to help develop markets for recycled plastic; the County plans to use a Bottle Bill grant to help initiate recycling programs at organized camps in the unincorporated area.
- It would eliminate a critical source of financial support available to non-profit recyclers such as the California Grey Bears and the San Lorenzo Valley Women's Club.
- It would undermine the scrap market for plastic and glass by eliminating producers' responsibility for processing plastic and by reducing minimum content requirements for glass container manufacturers.

These provisions would make it more difficult and costly for the County to reach the AB 939 50% diversion mandate by reducing existing financial support for recycling. In addition, SB 681 does not contain language to expand the Bottle Bill coverage to include additional types of beverage containers. The CRV (container redemption value) system has been very effective as an incentive for recycling and the more types of beverage containers with CRV, the more diversion will take place.

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In conclusion, please vote no on SB 681 as written and if the bill is amended, ask for an inclusion of language to expand the Bottle Bill coverage to additional types of beverage containers. If you need any additional information about the effects of the bill on the Co&y of Santa Cruz recycling programs, please feel free to contact Jeffrey Smedberg or Dan deGrassi of my staff at (831) 454-2160. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Yours truly,



JOHN A. FANTHAM

Director of Public Works

DdG:rw

copy to: Assembly Member Debra Bowen  
Assembly Speaker Antonio Villiargosa  
County Counsel  
County Administrative Office

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