

residents free drop-off opportunities for HHW, including batteries, but the costs associated with managing newer and larger batteries have quickly escalated and are unsustainable. These programs are expensive and put serious financial pressure on both the programs and local governments that operate them. **Medium-format batteries like those used in e-bikes, scooters, and hoverboards are much larger than conventional batteries but aren't covered under the state's existing stewardship and recycling programs yet pose a significant fire risk if disposed of improperly.**

Local governments and the solid waste industry have no control over which products will be introduced into the marketplace. SB 501 ensures that the producers of these larger batteries who profit from their sale bear financial responsibility for the management and disposal of the products they introduce into the market. By doing so and making proper disposal opportunities more convenient and affordable for residents, SB 501 will incentivize manufacturers to make those products safer and easier to manage at the end of their useful lives.

NSAC's CEO Heidi Sanborn chaired the [California Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling](#), which was comprised of 16 experts representing materials management companies, local governments, unions, and NGOs. The Commission unanimously recommended that the legislature, "pass EPR framework legislation to establish and maintain a convenient and fully funded recovery system for all hazardous products - including residuals and their containers as they are contaminants to other recycling/composting streams." According to the Commission, "in the absence of such a system, the variety and volume of hazards in the discard and recovery streams continues to expand," which can endanger our materials management workers. Batteries are one of the most dangerous products that still require a statewide management plan and funding program to collect and properly recycle, which will additionally support sustainable supply chains for metals needed to make the next generation of products.

For these reasons and more, we **strongly support SB 501 as amended June 1, 2026**, and respectfully urge your Aye vote.

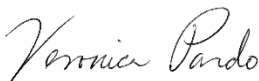
Sincerely,



Heidi Sanborn, CEO
National Stewardship Action Council



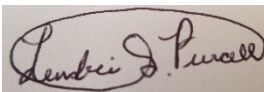
Shira Lane, CEO
Atrium 916



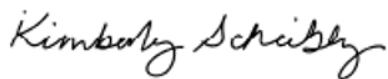
Veronica Pardo, Executive Director
Resource Recovery Coalition of CA



Tracie Onstad Bills, Executive Director
California Resource Recovery Association
(CRRA)



Lendri Purcell, President
FACTS Families Advocating for Chemical
and Toxic Safety



Kimberly Scheibly, Executive Director
Zero Waste Marin



Tony Hackett, Policy Associate
Californians Against Waste



Jackie Nunez, Founder
The Last Plastic Straw



Dianna Cohen, Co-Founder & CEO
Plastic Pollution Coalition



Leslie Tamminen, Earth Sciences Director
7th Generation Advisors



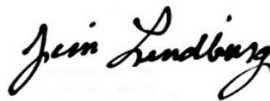
Melissa Jung, Reuse Networks Manager
Upstream



James Moore, Director
Merced County Regional Waste
Management Authority



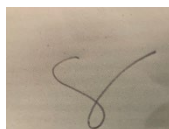
Shell Cleave, Founder
Sea Hugger



Jim Lindburg, Legislative Consultant
Friends Committee on Legislation of
California



Tim Dewey-Mattia, Recycling & Public
Education Manager
Napa Recycling & Waste Services



Cheryl Auger, President
Ban SUP (Single Use Plastics)



Gabriela Facio, Senior Policy Strategist
Sierra Club California



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Western Placer Waste Management
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Emily Parker, Marine Scientist
Heal the Bay



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Joe LaMariana, Executive Director
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Center for Environmental Health

Freddy Coronado, President
Northern California Recycling Association

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Policy & Program Development
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Coastal Environmental Rights Foundation
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Sacramento Splash

Jenn Engstrom, State Director
California Public Interest Research Group
(CalPIRG)

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Affairs
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NETZERO360 Sustainable Waste Solutions



Felipe Melchor, General Manager
ReGen Monterey



Michael Gross, Owner
Gross Garbage Group



Mary Lyn Baker, Owner
DH Casters



Melissa Sparks-Kranz, Legislative Advocate
League of California Cities

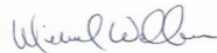


Christina Pestoni, Director of Government
Affairs
Waste Connections



David Bender, Chief Executive Officer
Circular Polymers

Brian Waters, President & CEO
Atlas Disposal



Michael Wellborn, President of the Board
Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks



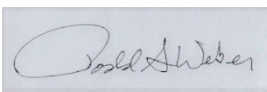
Krista Bernasconi, Mayor
City of Roseville



John Marchand, Mayor
City of Livermore



Leslie Lukacs, Executive Director
Zero Waste Sonoma



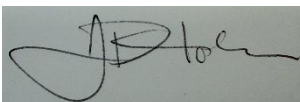
Todd Weber, Volunteer, Chapter Co-Leader
Elders Climate Action (ECA) Northern
California (NorCal) Chapter



Richard Burke, Founder, Chapter Leader
Elders Climate Action (ECA) Southern
California (SoCal) Chapter



Huy Le, Senior Toxics Reduction Program
Coordinator
San Francisco Environment Department



Jeff Holden, Founder & Host
The Nonprofit Podcast Network