

**County Executive**

David Villanueva

**Governmental Relations and
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Elisia De Bord

County of Sacramento**Board of Supervisors**

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April 6, 2025

The Honorable Ben Allen
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Room 6610
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SB 501 (Allen). Household Hazardous Waste Producer Responsibility Act.
Hearing: April 7**

Dear Assembly Member Allen:

On behalf of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, I write to support your SB 501, which establishes an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Program for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW).

HHW is a broad category of many common products used daily by consumers that contain hazardous materials. HHW requires special handling and disposal, as it is illegal to dispose of HHW in the garbage, down storm drains, or onto the ground. When illegally or improperly disposed of, chemicals in HHW can be released into the environment and contaminate our air, water, and food supply. Such illegal dumping and the collection and management of HHW is costly, which disproportionately falls to ratepayers.

The State and local governments embrace the goal of achieving a circular economy, and the Legislature has already passed similar legislation addressing some HHW products including mercury thermostats, paint, medications and needles, and batteries. The California Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling, comprised of 16 experts representing materials management companies, local governments, unions, and NGOs, unanimously recommended that the Legislature, "...establish EPR programs for the product categories below to reduce known fire and operational hazards", which included HHW. Cal Cities and CSAC strongly support SB 501 which would create an HHW EPR program, specifically with regard to safe and proper management of HHW products in our waste stream and reimbursement to local government for costs associated with the collection of HHW covered materials to ensure costs are appropriately placed on producers rather than local ratepayers.

For these reasons, Sacramento County supports SB 501. Please feel free to contact me at (916) 874-4627 or deborde@saccounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Elisia De Bord

Governmental Relations and Legislative Officer