



September 28, 2007

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 548 (Levine) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The California League of Conservation Voters (CLCV) supports AB 548 and urges you to sign the bill into law.

AB 548 is a simple but powerful bill. Its one sentence policy statement – that owners of multifamily residences shall provide recycling services for their tenants – will ensure that seven million Californians who live in apartments have the opportunity to recycle materials that otherwise will go to landfills. Unlike previous legislation on this subject, which was prescriptive and therefore opposed by segments of the solid waste industry, AB 548 leaves it to apartment owners to determine what kind of recycling services are appropriate for their properties. As a result, AB 548 is unanimously supported by the solid waste and recycling industries, and even all but one of the property owners' associations has removed their opposition.

Unlike with single family dwellings, where recycling opportunities are widespread and convenient, less than 40% of apartment dwellers have convenient access to recycling, and more than 85% of all waste generated from apartments goes to landfills. As you know, landfills are a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions, which led the Integrated Waste Management Board to propose better recycling at multifamily dwellings as an Early Action Measure for GHG emission reductions. In fact, the IWMB estimates that extending recycling to multifamily dwellings could reduce GHG emissions by up to 800,000 tons CO₂ per year.

The author and sponsor of AB 548 have heeded your veto message of last year's AB 2206: they worked very closely with the IWMB to craft a proposal that eliminates all prescriptiveness and costs for compliance. The time is right for you to sign AB 548 into law. CLCV respectfully urges you to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pete Price". The signature is stylized and cursive.

PETE PRICE
Governmental Affairs Representative
(916) 448-1015

cc: Assemblyman Lloyd Levine
Mr. Chris Kahn
Secretary Linda Adams