



**SF Environment**

**Our home. Our city. Our planet.**



GAVIN NEWSOM  
Mayor

JARED BLUMENFELD  
Director

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
California State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**FAX: 916-445-4633**

**RE: AB 548 (Levine) Multifamily Dwelling Recycling – Support**

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

We strongly urge you to sign Assembly Bill 548, which will increase California waste diversion by requiring apartment building owners to provide recycling opportunities at multifamily dwellings.

San Francisco has ambitious goals of 75% landfill diversion by 2010 and zero waste by 2020. Our current diversion rate is 69%. AB 548 will aid us in achieving our diversion goals and our mutual objectives such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

California is diverting more than 50 percent of generated waste, but it is estimated that just 15 percent of waste produced by multifamily buildings is currently diverted. While 19 percent of Californians live in multifamily dwellings, these housing units account for 26 percent of the residential waste stream.

Here in San Francisco, over 40 percent of our residents live in apartment buildings with more than 5 units. Their waste is a significant fraction of our total generation. Although we have undertaken great efforts to encourage multifamily recycling and even food scraps composting, there are many buildings without recycling and composting service, building owners who refuse to set up such service or install substandard service, and tenants who underutilize these services. We face tremendous challenges to increasing waste diversion in this sector.

All Californians deserve the opportunity to recycle and compost, regardless of whether they live in a single family home or a multifamily dwelling. We urge your support on this measure.

Sincerely,

Jared Blumenfeld  
Director