

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

October 9, 2007

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 48 (Saldaña) Hazardous Waste: Electric Equipment -
SUPPORT**

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

On behalf of the City Council and citizens of Pasadena, I want to express our support of Assembly Bill (AB) 48, which would phase out the use of hazardous materials in consumer electronics, consistent with provisions of the European Union Restriction of Hazardous Substances (ROHS) Directive.

Most electronics contain a myriad of toxic materials, including lead, mercury, and cadmium and human exposure to these carcinogenic substances can result in damage to the nervous, kidney, neurological and reproductive systems. The Department of Toxic Substances Control has banned most electronic devices from landfills under the state's Universal Waste Regulation. Furthermore, an analysis by the California Integrated Waste Management Board reveals that more than 515,000 tons of these toxic electronics are disposed in California's environment annually.

The responsibility for managing and diverting the increasing tonnage of electronic devices from landfills and ensuring that their toxic components are properly handled for recycling falls to local governments. As more and more electronic devices reach the end of their useful life, this responsibility becomes unsustainable under current municipal budgets.

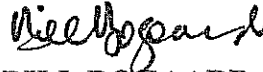
The only long-term sustainable solution to this problem is to phase out the use of unnecessary toxic components in electronic devices. Ensuring products are constructed in the least hazardous manner possible, provides for a greater recycling opportunity of "clean" electronic components and is essential to protecting the health and safety of California's people and the environment. Other countries have led the way in requiring

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manufacturers to phase out toxic elements in their products. The European Union's Restriction on Hazardous Substances (RoHS) directive offers California an excellent blueprint for such a policy.

The City of Pasadena supports AB 48 and we respectfully request your signature of this measure.

Sincerely,



BILL BOGAARD

Mayor

cc: Senator Jack Scott
Assembly Member Anthony Portantino
Cynthia J. Kurtz, City Manager – City of Pasadena
✓ David Jones, Emanuels Jones & Associates