



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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Senator Dave Cortese
1021 O Street, Suite 6630
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate Bill 642
SUPPORT

Dear Senator Cortese:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Senate Bill 642 (Cortese).

The Hazardous Waste Control Law governs the handling, treatment, recycling, and destruction of hazardous waste and provides criminal and civil penalties for noncompliance. Civil enforcement of hazardous waste violations provides that every civil action brought under the Law at the request of the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) or a unified program agency shall be brought by the city attorney, the "county attorney," the district attorney, or the Attorney General in the name of the People of the State of California.

While AB 1934, which added "county attorneys" to the existing statute in 1993, specifically mentioned the intent of the Legislature to authorize county counsels to prosecute hazardous waste regulatory laws, it did not make conforming changes to several related statutes. SB 642 would remedy this issue by authorizing county counsels to: seek an injunction for a violation of laws and regulations governing the generation, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials; bring a civil action, at the request of DTSC or a unified program agency, to enforce laws and regulations governing the generation, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials; and bring an action to enforce requirements related to business and area plans, storage tanks, or medical waste.

SB 642 would provide county counsel's offices with the tools they need to hold polluters accountable and protect public health and the environment while also removing a potentially unfair business advantage from those violating environmental laws.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Tamar Tokat in our Legislative Office at 916-442-0668.

Very Truly Yours,

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