



® March 17, 2017

1100 K Street
Suite 101
Sacramento
California
95814

Telephone
916.327.7500

Facsimile
916.441.5507

The Honorable Cristina Garcia
Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 509 (Frazier) – Tire recycling: California tire regulatory fee and waste tire program
As Introduced February 13, 2017 – SUPPORT
Awaiting Hearing – Assembly Natural Resources Hearing**

Dear Assembly Member Garcia,

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) writes in support of AB 509 (Frazier), a measure that creates the Tire Recycling Incentive Program to increase tire recycling, support local government infrastructure development, and reduce the illegal dumping of waste tires.

Tires are highly recyclable, with rubberized paving the largest market for recycled tires. Local government paving programs have the potential to use significantly more recycled tires in the place of traditional asphalt. However, California landfills, burns, or exports more than 62 percent of the waste tires generated in the state each year. The tire recycling rate remains low in spite of longstanding programs with significant funding and resources aimed at increasing recycling. Illegally dumped tires create significant costs for local agencies and the state, and also pose a health and safety risk to the public.

AB 509 will place a fee on the sale of new tires to fund recycling incentives. The revenue will be managed by CalRecycle and used to make payments to entities that purchase waste tire material for incorporation in a product. This incentive program pays for recycling and transitions the existing market development efforts into a guaranteed incentive program. This will allow both local governments and recycled content manufacturers to plan and budget for sustained use of recycled tire products.

CSAC supports policies and legislation that aim to promote improved markets for recyclable materials, and encourages the use of recycled content in products sold in California as well as the creation of economic incentives for the use of recycled materials. It is for these reasons that CSAC supports AB 509. If you have any questions about our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at cmartinson@counties.org or 916-327-7500, ext. 504.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cara Martinson'.

Cara Martinson
Legislative Representative

Cc: Assembly Member Jim Frazier
Members, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Elizabeth MacMillan, Principal Consultants, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
John Kennedy, Republican Consultant