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*Environmental Services*  
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*Community Development*  
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*Finance*  
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*Engineering*  
707-825-2128

*Transportation*  
707-822-3775

February 8, 2021

Assemblymember Wood  
1036 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

Via: Email: [c/o:erin.dunn@asm.ca.gov](mailto:c/o:erin.dunn@asm.ca.gov)

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO CONSIDER SPONSORING EMERGENCY LEGISLATIVE RELIEF FOR CRV REDEMPTION SERVICES IN HUMBOLDT AND OTHER SIMILARLY AFFECTED COMMUNITIES.**

Dear Assemblymember Wood,

The City of Arcata City Council respectfully requests your consideration to sponsor emergency legislative relief, or other appropriate mechanism, to enable CRV Redemption services in Humboldt County. The City of Arcata supports efforts by our local grocers to identify a mechanism by which the current operations of the CRV Redemption centers in Humboldt County could be modified to allow them to reopen in an orderly and safe manner. Temporarily modifying the restrictions on these CRV Redemption Centers would reduce nuisances that are now prevalent in our community as a result of people stock-piling recyclables, and will avoid the unnecessary fines that will be levied on our businesses that will undoubtedly be passed on to our residents, many of which are struggling during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Residents of Arcata and throughout Humboldt County are currently stockpiling their CRV recyclables until such a time as they can redeem them. While some have yard space to stockpile, those residing in smaller units such as mobile homes and multifamily housing units do not have space to accommodate storage and are often some of the most economically disadvantaged members of our community. It is very frustrating that we find ourselves in this situation, as it is completely avoidable by implementing simple changes that would allow our CRV buyback facilities in Humboldt County to reopen.

We encourage our state representatives to assist recycling centers by modifying some of the existing Certified Buyback operating restrictions and identifying temporary relief measures that allow recyclers in affected communities to reopen until a comprehensive reform of CA's Beverage Container Recycling & Litter Reduction Act (aka "Bottle Bill") is approved and implemented. Specifically, we are requesting that the State immediately implement changes in legislation that:

- Allow for easy and expedited recertification of Humboldt County CRV Redemption centers that decertified in 2020.
- Direct CalRecycle to develop protocols with Humboldt recycling centers for operation of a Certified Buyback on an appointment-based model.
- Increase the Allowable Daily Load Limits of CRV material to pre-2014 limits for a period of no less than 9-months to allow recyclers/CRV redemption centers to accommodate the heavy demand built up since March 2020.
- Extend the grace period and do not impose fines on local retailers for failing to provide CRV buyback until such time as a long-term CRV Redemption solution can be implemented.
- Allocate any funds in CalRecycle's Penalty account (those retailers opting out of CRV redemption services) into a grant fund account to establish and support local redemption opportunities, or for handling fees for the CRV redemption facilities.

The City of Arcata appreciates your efforts to date and looks forward to providing input on future comprehensive Bottle Bill reform and zero waste efforts.

Sincerely,



Sofia Pereira, Mayor  
City of Arcata

Cc: Governor Gavin Newsom, 1303 10th Street, Suite 1173 Sacramento, CA 95814  
Senator Mike McGuire, via email [senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov](mailto:senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov)  
League of California Cities, Attn: Sara Sanders via email [sanders@calcities.org](mailto:sanders@calcities.org)  
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