



**CITY OF SANTA CLARITA
AGENDA REPORT**

CONSENT CALENDAR

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:

Ken Stripling

DATE: July 13, 2021

SUBJECT: STATE LEGISLATION: SENATE BILL 619

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

PRESENTER: Masis Hagobian

RECOMMENDED ACTION

City Council adopt the City Council Legislative Committee recommendation to support Senate Bill 619 (Laird) and transmit position statements to Senator Laird, Santa Clarita's state legislative delegation, appropriate legislative committees, Governor Newsom, League of California Cities, and other stakeholder organizations.

BACKGROUND

Authored by Senator John Laird (D-17-Santa Cruz), Senate Bill 619 delays the ability for the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to impose a penalty on a local government, related to recently adopted organic waste regulations, until January 1, 2023.

In September 2016, Governor Brown signed Senate Bill 1383 (Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016), which, among other things, set methane emission reduction targets to reduce landfill disposal of organic waste by 75 percent of 2014 levels by 2025. Additionally, Senate Bill 1383 required CalRecycle to adopt regulations for local governments to achieve those targets and required the regulations to take effect on January 1, 2022.

Furthermore, Senate Bill 1383 authorized CalRecycle to impose penalties on local governments that were found to be non-compliant with the regulations, beginning on January 1, 2022. CalRecycle adopted final regulations in November 2020, which include the following requirements for local governments:

- Provide organic waste collection to all residents and businesses;
- Establish an edible food recovery program that recovers edible food from the waste stream;

- Conduct outreach and education to all affected parties, including generators and waste haulers;
- Procure recycled organic waste products like compost, mulch, and renewable natural gas; and
- Inspect and enforce compliance with Senate Bill 1383.

Senate Bill 619 delays the ability for CalRecycle to impose penalties on local governments that are found to be non-compliant with the aforementioned regulations by one year to January 1, 2023. Additionally, Senate Bill 619 adds that a penalty may only be imposed if CalRecycle finds that a local government did not make a reasonable effort, as determined by the department, to comply with the regulations.

Ultimately, Senate Bill 619 offers the City additional time to implement the requirements established by Senate Bill 1383. This includes finalizing residential and commercial solid waste franchise agreements, establishing a local mulch and compost procurement and distribution process, securing necessary funding for the implementation of the regulations, and developing a local food recovery program.

Senate Bill 619 passed the Senate (35-0-5) on May 20, 2021. Senator Scott Wilk (R-21-Santa Clarita) and Senator Henry Stern (D-27-Calabasas) voted in support of the bill. On June 23, 2021, Senate Bill 619 unanimously passed the Assembly Natural Resources Committee (11-0) and referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Notable supporters include 38 cities, including Whittier, Moorpark, La Canada Flintridge, and Glendora; League of California Cities; and American Public Works Association California Advocacy Committee.

Notable opponents include the City of Winters, Yolo Climate Emergency Coalition, and Yolo Food Bank.

The City Council Legislative Committee met on June 22, 2021, and recommends that the City Council adopt a “support” position on Senate Bill 619.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION

1. Adopt an “oppose” position on Senate Bill 619.
2. Adopt a “neutral” position on Senate Bill 619.
3. Take no action on Senate Bill 619.
4. Refer Senate Bill 619 back to the Legislative Committee.
5. Other direction, as provided by the City Council.

FISCAL IMPACT

The resources required to implement the recommended action are contained within the City of Santa Clarita's adopted FY 2021-22 budget.

ATTACHMENTS

Senate Bill 619 - Bill Text