

RESOLUTION NO. 3977

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO URGING THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT AN EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FRAMEWORK, REQUESTING THE TOWN'S LOBBYING EFFORTS INCLUDE EXTENDED PRODUCER ADVOCACY, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE CALIFORNIA PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL AND COMMITTING THE TOWN TO THE GOALS OF ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING

WHEREAS, approximately 180,155 tons of discarded materials and products are currently sent to disposal from Marin County each year; and

WHEREAS, On February 8, 2006 California's Universal Waste Rule (CCR, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 23) became effective; and

WHEREAS, The Universal Waste Rule banned landfill disposal of certain products that are deemed hazardous, including household batteries, fluorescent bulbs and tubes, thermostats and other items that contain mercury, and electronic devices such as, televisions, cell phones, microwave ovens, printers, and computers; and

WHEREAS, It is anticipated that the list of waste products determined to be hazardous or problematic will continue to grow and will therefore be banned from landfills as demonstrated by the 2007 ban of treated wood and the 2008 ban on sharps; and

WHEREAS, State policies currently hold local governments responsible for achieving waste diversion goals and enforcing product disposal bans, both of which are unfunded mandates; and

WHEREAS, The costs to manage Universal Waste and problematic products are currently borne by taxpayers and rate payers and because of the bans these costs are increasing substantially and will continue to do so unless policy changes are made; and

WHEREAS, Data from Town and county annual reports show that, statewide, less than ten percent of the household hazardous waste and Universal Waste generated is being collected; and

WHEREAS, Local governments do not have the resources to adequately address the rising volume of discarded products; and

WHEREAS, Costs paid by local governments to manage products are, in effect, subsidies to the producers of hazardous products and products designed for disposal; and

WHEREAS, There are significant environmental and human health impacts associated with improper management of Universal Waste, sharps, pharmaceuticals, and other products and economic impacts when waste becomes litter, including ocean litter; and

WHEREAS, EPR incorporates the cost of disposal and recovery for discarded products into the purchase price and reduces the financial burden on local taxpayers and garbage ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, EPR encourages reuse and recycling and also encourages producers to consider the health and environmental costs associated with the products they create and to include those costs in the product price, thereby creating an incentive to design products that are more durable, easier to repair and recycle, and are less toxic; and

WHEREAS, Town incorporates EPR policies into the procurement practices to reduce costs and protect the environment; and

WHEREAS, The National and California League of Cities adopted policy statements in support of a framework approach to EPR; the Solid Waste Association of North America adopted a policy supporting EPR, and the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials adopted a Product Stewardship Framework Policy Document; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Town Council of San Anselmo hereby urges the California Legislature to continue taking timely action to implement the Framework for an EPR System adopted by CalRecycle in 2008 to manage problematic products; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of San Anselmo additionally urges the California Legislature to enact framework EPR legislation which will give producers the incentive to design products to make them less toxic and easier to reuse and recycle; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of San Anselmo encourages the Department of Toxic Substances Control to implement the Green Chemistry initiative to manage Universal Waste and other toxic products; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of San Anselmo requests the Mayor to send letters to the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties, the Department of Toxic Substance Control, and the State Legislature and to use other advocacy methods to urge support for EPR product and framework legislation and related regulations and otherwise direct the Town's Sacramento Lobbying efforts to advocate for EPR product and framework legislation; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of San Anselmo encourages all manufacturers to share in the responsibility for eliminating waste through minimizing excess packaging, designing products for durability, reusability and the ability to be recycled; using recycled materials in the manufacture of new products; and providing financial support for collection, processing, recycling, or disposal of used materials; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of San Anselmo commits to the following goals: Reduce occupational health hazards for Town staff as well as reduce exposure of Town residents and visitors to potential toxics; reduce Town's contribution to global climate change by purchasing products that lead to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions; improve the air quality by purchasing equipment that minimizes emissions of air pollutants; protect the quality of ground and surface waters by eliminating the use of chemicals known to contaminate;

preserve resources locally and globally through purchasing practices that maximize water and energy efficiency; utilize post-consumer recycled content and readily recyclable and compostable materials; favor renewable energy sources and long term use through product durability, reparability, and reuse; and consider the life cycle economics of a product's manufacture, transportation, use and disposal.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the San Anselmo Town Council at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 14th day of February, 2012, by the following vote , to wit:

AYES: Coleman, Kroot, Lopin, McInerney

NOES: None

ABSENT: Greene

ABSTAIN: None



Tom McInerney, Mayor

ATTEST:



Barbara, Chambers, Town Clerk