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March 22, 2012

Mr. John Muller, Chair
Attn: Mr. Dale Bowyer - dbowyer@waterboards.ca.gov
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Muller:

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Sonoma County is pleased the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board may soon consider trash reduction activities. Trash is a significant problem and we must take strong action to keep our planet green.

Banning products to achieve a policy goal is a decision that should not be taken lightly. As a member of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, I understand that no representatives from local commerce and retail have been able to weigh in on the recommendations and I am concerned that businesses and consumers would be adversely impacted.

Compounding the bans with unreliable assumptions about its results would be irresponsible governance and a great disservice to the public.

As President of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Sonoma County, I am concerned for potential economic impacts of these recommendations, specifically the cost to small restaurants and businesses that would be forced to use higher priced replacement packaging that would ultimately still become trash.

Thank you for considering our concerns.

Sincerely,

Marcos J. Suarez

President
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Sonoma County

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