



April 24, 2009

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The Honorable Felipe Fuentes, Chair
Assembly Utilities & Commerce Committee
The State Capitol, Room 5136
Sacramento, CA

**RE: AB 222 (Adams) – Energy: Biofuels
As Amended 4/14/09 – Support
Referred to the Assembly Utilities & Commerce Committee**

Dear Assembly Member Fuentes:

On behalf of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), I write to express our strong support for AB 222, by Assembly Member Anthony Adams. AB 222 proposes to update the Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 to incorporate changes that will enable and expedite the production of advanced, non-food derived biofuels, green power and other biobased products from biomass.

Counties recognize the opportunities presented by biomass. CSAC believes that the state of California must develop a coherent, integrated biomass policy that will guide regulation and investment for the next 20 years. Support for biomass will expand the beneficial use of California's waste streams and in so doing, stimulate economic investment and provide high level green collar manufacturing jobs.

Additionally, this bill will contribute to the reduction of harmful greenhouse gases and help California meet its goals under AB 32. AB 222 will also help California achieve the goals of its Renewable Portfolio Standard, Low Carbon Fuel Standard and Bioenergy Action Plan. It is for these reasons that we strongly support this bill. Should you have any questions regarding our position, please feel free to contact me at 916-327-7500 ext. 511, or kkeene@counties.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen A. Keene".

Karen Keene
CSAC Legislative Representative

cc: Members and Consultant, Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee