2018
TML RESOLUTION COVER SHEET

Sponsoring Entity: City of Pflugerville

Brief Background: The City of Pflugerville requests that the Texas Municipal League seek introduction and passage of a bill to fund an end-market development plan and state-wide educational campaign for the Texas recycling industry. The resolution is submitted late due to the extended vetting process by many industrial stakeholders that was completed this week. Until that was completed, STAR was not able to seek a municipal sponsor. The draft legislation was put in to "Bill" format this week and is currently at the Legislative Council to be formally drafted.

What the Resolution is Intended to Accomplish: The resolution seeks to prevent the municipal recycling industry from collapsing in Texas through two critical actions:

(1) A statewide, comprehensive recycling market development plan must be developed to identify gaps between supply and demand, barriers impeding flow of Texas recyclables into viable end use markets, opportunities to overcome these barriers, and strategies to realize these market development opportunities. The plan would provide points of action for the State of Texas as well as other actions to take in the short term to overcome the current market crisis and to develop a sustainable recycling system over the long term.

(2) A statewide public education campaign that conveys the economic benefits of recycling in Texas and the importance of recycling properly and reducing contamination to enhance the value of recovered materials and to promote buying products made from Texas recyclable materials to increase domestic demand.

Statewide Importance: There is no time like the present. The resolution addresses mounting municipal concerns over increasing processing costs of collected recyclables and a lack of domestic processors and end-use markets to utilize the materials. Contamination in recycling is an education issue and there is a need for greater education on the topic of what and how to recycle. Texas prides itself as a pro-business state and there is no better time to develop a plan that will bring more businesses to Texas, support our current Texas recyclers, and continue to generate tax revenue, provide state-wide economic benefits and prevent resources from being wasted.

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