

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: June 6, 2005

THROUGH: LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: SUPPORT ASSEMBLY BILL 1612 (PAVLEY)-CIGARETTES: LITTER – CREATING THE CIGARETTE POLLUTION PREVENTION AND LITTER FUND TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO CITIES, COUNTIES AND OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES TO OFFSET THE COSTS OF PROGRAMS FOR THE PREVENTION AND CLEANUP OF CIGARETTE-RELATED POLLUTION AND LITTER

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Support Assembly Bill 1612 (Pavley)-Cigarettes: Litter.
2. Authorize the Mayor to send correspondence to the appropriate authorities stating Pasadena's position.

BILL SUMMARY

Assembly Bill 1612 would create the Cigarette Pollution Prevention and Litter Fund to be collected by the State Board of Equalization.

BACKGROUND

Assembly Bill 1612 would enact the Cigarette Pollution and Litter Prevention Act of 2005, and would require a manufacturer to pay a cigarette pollution and litter prevention fee of ten cents (\$0.10) per pack of cigarettes sold in the state during the previous year to the State Board of Equalization. Fifty percent of the revenue annually collected would be allocated to the Department of Conservation to provide funds to cities, counties and other public agencies to offset the costs of programs for the prevention and cleanup of cigarette-related pollution and litter.

The American Lung Association of California reports that nearly 1.2 billion packs of cigarettes are consumed in California annually. While consumption of cigarettes has decreased in the past 15 years, pollution and litter from cigarettes remains a significant cost to local governments, public health and the environment. The vast majority of

cigarette remnants or "butts" are littered or landfilled. Cigarette butts are regularly identified as the single most prevalent component of the state's litter stream. Additionally, they are frequently flushed into the storm drain system by rain and other water run-off, and then into rivers and the ocean via drain inlets and pipe networks.

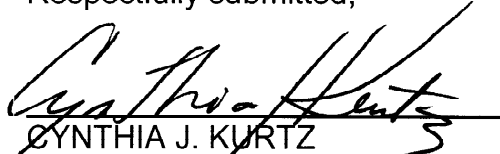
Public agencies in California spend in excess of \$100 million annually on litter cleanup. As more local governments are required to reduce storm drain trash and litter in order to meet Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) standards mandated by the Clean Water Act, these costs will rise. The costs to public agencies in Southern California alone to comply with existing mandates are estimated to exceed \$1.7 billion over the next decade. Manufacturers of tobacco products should be held financially liable for the environmental effects of their products, including cigarette-related pollution and litter.

Assembly Bill 1612 is sponsored by the American Lung Association, Californians Against Waste and the American Heart Association, Western States Affiliate. Supporters include the League of California Cities, the Sierra Club and the Natural Resources Defense Council. The bill is currently in the Appropriations Committee Suspense File and a hearing date has not yet been set.

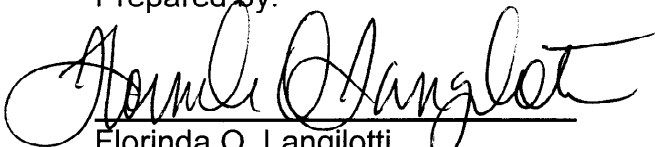
FISCAL IMPACT

Passage of this bill would help offset the costs associated with cigarette-related litter and to mitigate cigarette related pollution. At ten cents (\$0.10) per pack, the imposed fee could generate \$120 million annually, of \$60 million would be provided to cities, counties and other public agencies for the prevention and cleanup of cigarette-related pollution and litter.

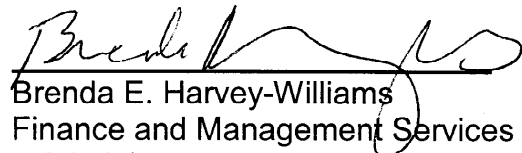
Respectfully submitted,


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