

Dear (Elected Official)

The city of Los Angeles has recently unanimously supported a ban on the import and sale of wasteful, anti-environmental, single-use, new built printer cartridges. I am a staunch supporter of the use of remanufactured cartridges, which are made here, support local jobs and chiefly, divert thousands of tons of industrial-grade plastic from landfills every year.

More than 375 million plastic ink and toner printer cartridges are thrown away each year sending over 150 million pounds of plastic waste to landfills. This number is growing rapidly due to the increased flow of aftermarket, new built, single-use printer cartridges that are primarily imported from foreign manufacturers.

Printer cartridges are classified as a consumable product, which consumers use repeatedly until spent, discard it, and purchase another to continue operating their printer. Imported, aftermarket, new built, single-use printer cartridges cannot be recycled or remanufactured for reuse due to the materials and manufacturing process used in their production. Single-use printer cartridges can take between 450 to more than 1,000 years to decompose in landfill, and some have even tested for high quantities of DecaBDE and other banned carcinogenic materials.

When these imported single-use printer cartridges are removed from printers, they are not classified as e-waste but rather just waste with no value for recyclers or remanufacturers. Imported single-use printer cartridges use 40 percent more energy to produce, waste 54 percent more fossil fuels when consumed, and generate a 55 percent larger carbon footprint than recycled or remanufactured printer cartridges.

More paper is wasted when imported single-use printer cartridges are used. They generate 16 times more paper waste from reprints due to their inconsistent print quality. These cartridges have flooded into the marketplace due to their cheap price and the internet sales platform.

I ask you as a constituent to support this fight. Please join Los Angeles elected officials in their SUPPORT for any local, state, or federal legislation and/or administrative action that would ban the import and sale of single-use, new built printer cartridges since they are harmful to the environment and cannot be recycled or remanufactured.

For more information, please feel free to contact both Tricia Judge and Jim Ladd at Tonernews.com (tonernews@gmail.com) and Tricia Judge (tricia@i-itc.org) at the www.i-itc.org for more information on the importance of supporting the cartridge remanufacturing industry.

Thank you,