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Randy Fine
Florida House of Representatives
State Representative, District 53

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2, 2018

Contact: Joe Howard (321) 409-2017

**FINE AND WASTE MANAGEMENT INC. OF FLORIDA RELEASE
STATEMENT ON BREVARD COUNTY SOLID WASTE SERVICE**

(Tallahassee, FL) State Representative Randy Fine (R-South Brevard County) and Waste Management Inc. of Florida ("Waste Management") authorize and release the following statement:

Hurricane Irma seriously impacted the residents of Florida, Brevard County, and the City of Palm Bay in a multitude of ways. One particular challenge in Palm Bay was garbage collection service 48 hours prior to the hurricane's landfall. As a result of constituent feedback, Representative Fine filed House Bill 971 addressing interruption of services. HB 971 was workshopped by the Energy & Utilities Subcommittee and reported favorably by both the Energy & Utilities Subcommittee and the House Commerce Committee, and is scheduled to be brought up for a vote on the House Floor today, March 2nd. Over those weeks, Representative Fine and Waste Management have been in frequent discussion, and have reached the following agreement:

1. Waste Management will publicize a local telephone number for Palm Bay residents to call in the event of any missed solid waste service. That local number is (321) 723-4455.
2. Waste Management will encourage the City of Palm Bay to hold a public workshop in the next 90 days to consider twice-a-week solid waste collection service.
3. Waste Management will continue to work diligently to provide timely and excellent service to all of its customers, both when faced with natural disaster, and during routine times. Waste Management, and its peers in the industry, learned valuable lessons from Irma. Those lessons will be addressed. In the event of a future natural disaster, like Irma, Waste Management will review its processes to ensure garbage is picked up from customers as long as it is safe to do so and the county owned landfill remains open to accept the waste, and will work with its customers, consistent with state law, to resume regular collection services after a storm while ensuring the safety of the company's employees.
4. Representative Fine will withdraw HB 971 for the duration of the 2018 legislative session, and will monitor the implementation of the steps outlined above over the next year.

Committees and Subcommittees:

Vice Chairman, Careers & Competition Subcommittee – Commerce Committee -- Joint Legislative Auditing Committee
Natural Resources & Public Lands Subcommittee – Transportation & Tourism Appropriation Subcommittee
Tourism & Gaming Control Subcommittee
Chairman, Brevard County Delegation

Representative Fine had the following statement: “I want to thank Waste Management for working with me to address the concerns of my constituents. The legislative process has worked – HB 971 was developed organically in response to requests from my constituents, and the attention it has garnered has created a cooperative partnership to get them resolved. I look forward to this shared commitment to ensure that all garbage is picked up in a safe and timely manner.”

ABOUT RANDY FINE: Randy Fine is the State Representative from District 53, which is comprised of the southern portion of Brevard County and includes the entirety of Palm Bay, Malabar, and Grant-Valkaria, and portions of Melbourne, West Melbourne, and unincorporated Brevard. Representative Fine is a third-generation Floridian, married to his wife Wendy, and together they have two boys, Jacob and David. A lifelong entrepreneur, Randy started his first business while in college and his second after graduating with distinction from Harvard Business School. Randy is the Cubmaster of Cub Scout Pack 391 and is an active Junior Achievement volunteer instructor.

ABOUT WASTE MANAGEMENT: Waste Management, based in Houston, Texas, is the leading provider of comprehensive waste management services in North America. Through its subsidiaries, the company provides collection, transfer, recycling and resource recovery, and disposal services. It is also a leading developer, operator and owner of landfill gas-to-energy facilities in the United States. The company’s customers include residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal customers throughout North America. To learn more information about Waste Management visit www.wm.com or www.thinkgreen.com.