

AAFA supports Responsible Textile Recovery Act, pledges engagement

The American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA) expressed readiness to collaborate on California's newly passed SB-707, the Responsible Textile Recovery Act of 2024 which aims to advance sustainability within the textile, apparel, and footwear industries through extended producer responsibility (EPR) programmes.

Isatou Ndure | September 3, 2024

Share



AAFA president and CEO acknowledged that while the bill had been improved significantly over the last two years, some industry concerns remained unaddressed. Credit: Shutterstock

A AFA president and CEO Steve Lamar emphasised the industry's commitment to sustainability and circularity, noting the importance of EPR schemes in

promoting investment in reuse, repair, and recycling infrastructure.

Lamar acknowledged that while the Responsible Textile Recovery bill had been improved significantly over the last two years, some industry concerns remained unaddressed.

“The industry would have preferred to see some additional amendments, such as language to provide for harmonisation with the European Union on the recycling definition, to eliminate restrictions on the sale of recycled textiles, and to fully close the loophole for third-party sellers on online marketplaces,” said Lamar.

The AAFA has actively engaged with the Responsible Textile Recovery Act throughout its two-year development process, previously submitting comments alongside other industry groups and testifying before the California State Senate.

Lamar praised Senator Josh Newman for his engagement with stakeholders, resulting in amendments that addressed previous industry concerns which led AAFA to withdraw its opposition to the Responsible Textile Recovery Act.

See Also:

[Explainer: How new demographics will change apparel retail in future](#) 

[Week in review: Unprecedented times are fashion’s new normal](#) 

These changes included closing a loophole for online marketplaces, ensuring brands’ resale efforts were included, allowing circularity partners to participate, and eliminating liability for counterfeit products.

“We look forward to continued work with Senator Newman and the State of California on this programme. The EPR program’s successful operation will be vital to supporting the industry’s circular transition.”

[Lamar is scheduled to attend day two of the International Textile Manufacturers Federation \(ITMF\) annual conference and International Apparel Foundation \(IAF\) World Fashion Convention to provide insights into the regulatory landscape in the US.](#)



Apparel sourcing and textile industry news & analysis

Powered by 

© Verdict Media Limited 2024

