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California passes 'Responsible Textile Recovery Act' to tackle textile waste

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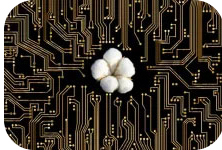
California has taken a significant step forward in sustainability by passing the [Responsible Textile Recovery Act of 2024 \(SB 707\)](#). This landmark legislation, spearheaded by Senator Josh Newman, makes California the first state in the U.S. to introduce an [Extended Producer Responsibility \(EPR\)](#) program specifically for textiles. The act mandates that manufacturers of textiles are now responsible for funding and managing the end-of-life processes of their products, including recycling, reuse, and repair.

The legislation aims to address the growing issue of textile waste, which is one of the fastest-growing categories of waste in landfills. With this act, California sets a strong precedent for other states and countries to follow in their efforts to create a more circular and sustainable textile industry.



Key industry players, including the American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA) and major brands like IKEA, have expressed support for the bill. They acknowledge that while the legislation poses challenges, it is a necessary move toward sustainability. The final version of the bill has been refined to be more industry-friendly, addressing concerns such as brand liability for counterfeit products and ensuring that brands' circularity efforts are recognized.

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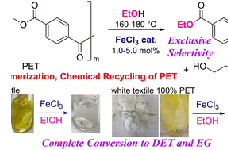
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The bill's passage is expected to catalyze significant investments in recycling infrastructure and encourage brands to prioritize sustainable practices from the design phase. By holding producers accountable for the lifecycle of their products, California aims to reduce the environmental impact of textile production and waste.

As the first of its kind in the U.S., the Responsible Textile Recovery Act of 2024 not only highlights California's leadership in environmental legislation but also sets a new standard for textile waste management that could influence future policies globally.