



October 2, 2017

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown
 Governor, State of California
 California State Capitol
 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 1158 (Chu) – Carpet Recycling - REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Honorable Governor Brown:

The entities above are proud to SUPPORT AB 1158 by Assemblymember Kansen Chu (D – San Jose), which takes needed measures to improve California’s existing carpet stewardship program and ensures maximum benefits to California fee payers.

California’s Carpet Stewardship Law (AB 2398, Chapter 681, Statutes of 2010), which is paid for by a consumer fee per yard of carpet sold in the state, requires carpet manufacturers that sell carpet in California to implement a stewardship program to increase the recycling rate of carpet in California. The industry’s stewardship organization submits their plan updates to CalRecycle for approval to demonstrate how the industry plans to achieve “continuous meaningful improvement” of carpet recycling. In December of 2016, CalRecycle disapproved CARE’s Proposed Plan for 2017-2021, deeming the stewardship organization out of compliance.

AB 1158 take meaningful steps to improve California’s Carpet Recycling Program by doing the following:

1. Formalizes Stakeholder Role: Establishes a multi-stakeholder advisory committee under CalRecycle to promote transparency and ensure consideration of input from many stakeholders.
2. Sets Clear Performance Goals: Sets a reasonable recycling rate of 24% by 2020 (the state’s goal is 75% by 2020), and will allow CalRecycle to set new goals for future years based on stewardship program information and economic and any other relevant information.
3. Protects Consumer Fee Money: Clarifies that consumer recycling fee money cannot be spent to pay civil penalties, litigation against the State of California, or for the landfilling or incineration of carpet.
4. Provides Enforcement Flexibility: Stakeholders agreed to include a provision allowing manufacturers to operate under the most recently approved plan for one year if the broader stewardship organization’s plan is disapproved. This allows for the continuation of the recycling program and protects manufacturers from penalties while the stewardship organization resolves issues that led to plan disapproval.

5. Supports Training of Apprentices: There was broad agreement among stakeholders that proper training of carpet installers on methods of removing and storing carpet will improve the quality of the product being recycled, and lead to a higher recycling rate. AB 1158 provides incentives for the training of apprentices as a method of improving program performance.

For these reasons, and more, we are pleased to support AB 1158, and we respectfully urge you to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director
California Product Stewardship Council

Nusa Urbancic, Campaign Director
Changing Markets

Tim Dewey-Mattia, Recycling and Public
Education Manager
Napa County Recycling

Angela T. Howe, Legal Director
Surfrider Foundation

Patrick Carter, Executive Director
Sonoma County Waste Management Agency

Patrick Mathews, General Manager/CAO
Salinas Valley Recycles

John Davis, Administrator
Mohave Desert and Mountain Recycling
Authority

Gail Brice, Senior Vice President, Corporate
Development, XT Green

Deborah O. Raphael, Director
San Francisco Department of the
Environment

Andria Ventura, Toxics Program Manager
Clean Water Action

Nate Miley, Supervisor
Alameda County District 4

Nick Lapis, Director of Advocacy
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Robert Lilly, Managing Member
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Patty Garbarino, President
Marin Sanitary Service

Josh Pane and Kelly Astor
California Refuse Recycling Council