



***** SENATE FLOOR ALERT *****

AB 1158 (Chu) – California Carpet Stewardship Act of 2017 – SUPPORT

The entities listed above are proud to **SUPPORT AB 1158**, which will improve California’s poorly-performing carpet stewardship program to provide maximum benefits to California fee-payers.

The carpet manufacturers’ stewardship organization, Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE), has consistently failed to comply, having two stewardship plans disapproved by CalRecycle over the last year, and being fined approximately \$3 million for three consecutive years of failure to meet the standards laid out in current law.

AB 1158 makes meaningful but reasonable changes to the authorizing statute for California’s carpet recycling program that will improve program performance, increase recycling, and protect the California consumers that are funding the program, by doing the following:

1. **Improving the compliance standard** by striking the vague “continuous meaningful improvement” language in state law and establishing a target recycling rate of 24% by 2020. The bill also authorizes CalRecycle to establish recycling targets beginning in 2020 and every three years thereafter, and allows flexibility to adjust the rate up or down based on quantitative data.
2. **Protecting consumer fee revenue** by ensuring that funds are not used to pay penalty fees, for litigation against the state, or for activities related to disposal or incineration of carpet.
3. **Formalizing a stakeholder advisory committee**, which will include a member from a labor organization that represents carpet installers, and requiring a stewardship organization to respond to the committee’s input.
4. **Providing flexibility for compliance and enforcement** should a plan be disapproved, allowing manufacturers to continue to operate under the most recently approved plan’s elements and sell carpet in California, without being subject to penalties, for one year.
5. Ensuring that the stewardship plan includes incentives or grants to **support training for carpet installers**.
6. Requiring grants or subsidies to **incentivize carpet materials with the most recyclability**.
7. **Improving information sharing** by ensuring that a stewardship organization provide the data necessary for CalRecycle to evaluate program effectiveness.

We respectfully urge your AYE vote when this bill is heard on the Senate Floor.

Heidi Sanborn, National Stewardship Action Council, 916-217-1109, heidi@nsaction.us

Melissa Immel, 707-301-9923, melissa@shawyoderantwih.com