



May 24, 2022

Assemblymember Cristina Garcia  
1021 O Street, Suite  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Assembly Bill 1 – Lead-Acid Battery Fee – SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Garcia:

On behalf of the California Retailers Association (CRA), I am pleased to support your Assembly Bill 1, which revises the mandated consumer notice for the California Battery Fee to avoid consumer confusion.

The California Retailers Association is the only statewide trade association representing all segments of the retail industry including general merchandise, department stores, mass merchandisers, on-line marketplaces, convenience stores, supermarkets and grocery stores, chain drug, and specialty retail such as auto, vision, jewelry, hardware and home stores. CRA works on behalf of California's retail industry the largest retail market in the United States.

AB 1 clarifies the mandated consumer notice for the California Battery Fee established pursuant to AB 2153 (C. Garcia, 2016). AB 2153 set the consumer fee at \$1 per battery and required battery dealers to post a notice either in a public sales area or on the purchaser's receipt stating that the "dealer is required by law to charge a nonrefundable \$1 California battery fee."

In 2019, the Legislature increased the fee from \$1 to \$2. Unfortunately, no conforming changes were made to the required notice. Thus, as of April 1, 2022, dealers are required to charge \$2 per battery while simultaneously presenting a required notice that contradictorily states the consumer is to be charged a \$1 fee. AB 1 will reduce confusion both for consumers and sellers by updating the consumer notice language to indicate the \$2 fee.

Thank you for your introduction of this measure. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Steve McCarthy at [steve@calretailers.com](mailto:steve@calretailers.com) or (916) 443-1975.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve McCarthy".

Steve McCarthy  
Vice President, Public Policy