



June 7, 2022

Senator Henry Stern
Chair, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water
1021 O Street, 2100
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Senate Bill 1187 – Fabric Recycling – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Stern and Committee Members:

The California Retailers Association is pleased to support Senate Bill 1187, which establishes a pilot project of up to three years in Los Angeles and Ventura counties in partnership with garment manufacturers to study the feasibility of recycling fabric.

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.

Today, more than 85 percent of clothing in the United States ends up in landfill or is burned after being discarded, and less than 1 percent of old clothing is recycled to make new clothes. With over one million metric tons being sent to landfills each year, California has great potential to reduce textile waste. Improvements in textile waste reduction will also help California meet its overall goals for organic waste reduction.

We thank Senator Kamlager for introducing SB 1187 and for her leadership on this important issue. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Steve McCarthy at steve@calretailers.com or (916) 443-1975.

Sincerely,

Steve McCarthy
Vice President, Public Policy