

May 6, 2025

The Honorable Buffy Wicks, Chair Committee on Appropriations 1021 O Street, Suite 8220 Sacramento, CA 95814

## RE: Support for AB 1478 (Hoover) - Consumer Affordability & Mattress Recycling

Dear Chair Hicks,

I am writing on behalf of the California Retailers Association to express our strong support for AB 1478 (Hoover), a practical, consumer-focused measure that enhances affordability by allowing certain retailers to pay the mattress recycling fee on behalf of their customers.

Under current law, mattress retailers must separately list and charge consumers for the recycling fee, which limits flexibility and increases out-of-pocket costs. AB 1478 offers an alternative: it allows businesses to voluntarily absorb this fee rather than passing it directly onto consumers. Whether the customer is a single mother buying her child's first bed or a grandparent seeking a mattress that meets their medical needs, AB 1478 is rooted in providing meaningful relief at a time when Californians are facing rising costs for essential goods.

Importantly, this bill does not compromise the integrity of California's mattress recycling program. Retailers who choose to cover the fee will remain fully compliant with all recycling requirements, including paying the fees in full and educating consumers about available recycling options. The bill is narrowly tailored to assist retailers who do not primarily sell mattresses, enabling them to streamline transactions while maintaining their commitment to sustainability.

AB 1478 sustains California's leadership in environmental stewardship without placing unnecessary financial burdens on consumers.

I respectfully urge your support for this commonsense legislation.

Sincerely,

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Sarah Pollo Moo Policy Advocate California Retailers Association

CC: The Honorable Assemblymember Josh Hoover, Author Members of the Assembly Committee on Appropriations Staff of the Assembly Committee on Appropriations Committee Consultant for the GOP