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LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
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September 25, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol Building, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

**REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE – ASSEMBLY BILL 187 (ENROLLED ON
SEPTEMBER 16, 2019) – USED MATTRESS RECOVERY AND RECYCLING ACT
(ACT)**

The Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) respectfully requests your signature on Assembly Bill 187 (AB 187). AB 187 would require the mattress stewardship organization, formed pursuant to the Act, to update its plan every five years, to include additional specified information and goals in the plan, the budget, and the annual reports, and to consider and respond in writing to the advisory committee's written recommendations. The bill would prohibit the organization from (a) establishing a financial reserve exceeding 60 percent of its annual operating expenses, (b) reducing the mattress recycling charge unless the organization is meeting all goals and requirements of the program, and (c) expending the revenue for the specified purpose of paying civil penalty, commencing January 1, 2027. The bill would also require State Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to establish a process and schedule for an orderly transition of responsibility from a CalRecycle decertified mattress recycling organization to a successor organization.

If enacted, the foregoing provisions would address current loopholes in the existing Act that are being exploited, such as maintaining and not utilizing a significant financial reserve, lack of transparency, and California recycling charge money not being prioritized for California processing infrastructure. These loop holes have been contributing to the failure of the existing stewardship organization to achieve higher levels of mattress recovery and recycling to reduce/prevent illegal dumping and significant costs to local jurisdictions.

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Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939), the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of all major solid waste planning documents prepared for the County of Los Angeles and the 88 cities in Los Angeles County with a combined population in excess of ten million. Consistent with these responsibilities and to ensure a coordinated and cost-effective and environmentally sound solid waste management system in Los Angeles County, the Task Force also addresses issues impacting the system on a countywide basis. The Task Force membership includes representatives of the League of California Cities-Los Angeles County Division, County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, City of Los Angeles, waste management industry, environmental groups, the public, and a number of other governmental agencies.

Based on the foregoing, the Task Force supports AB 187, and respectfully requests your signature on this legislation. If you or staff have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer, a member of the Task Force, at MikeMohajer@yahoo.com or at (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



Margaret Clark, Vice-Chair
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force and
Mayor, City of Rosemead

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cc: Assembly Member Cristina Garcia
Assembly Member Bigelow
Rachel Machi Wagoner, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom
California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities – Los Angeles County Division
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Sachi A. Hamai, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
Westside Cities Council of Governments
Each City Mayor and City Manager in the County of Los Angeles
Each City Recycling Coordinator in Los Angeles County
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force