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MARGARET CLARK, VICE - CHAIR

LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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May 11, 2012

The Honorable Christine Kehoe, Chair  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2206  
Sacramento, CA 94248-0001

Dear Senator Kehoe:

**OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED SENATE BILL 1118 (AMENDED APRIL 25, 2012)  
SOLID WASTE: USED MATTRESSES**

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) **opposes unless amended** Senate Bill 1118 (SB 1118) which, if enacted would require mattress manufacturers to establish and implement a program to offer free pick-ups of used mattresses from a customer or public agency, or opt-out and pay a \$25 fee to CalRecycle that must be used to implement a state-run mattress recovery and recycling program.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code and the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939 (AB 939), as amended), 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.

The Task Force is supportive of the author's effort to address the problem of improper disposal of used mattresses. As provided by State law, local governments are responsible for the protection of their citizens' health and safety as well as the management of solid waste, including post-consumer mattresses, generated by their residents and businesses. Accordingly, the Task Force has been a long-time supporter of legislative efforts that promote producer responsibility and product stewardship. The Task Force is in support of the provisions in SB 1118 that endorse these principles by requiring manufacturers of mattresses to establish and implement a program to collect and recycle used mattresses from consumers and local governments. This requirement

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provides for an efficient industry-run program that utilizes a market based approach with limited oversight by the State. Unfortunately, Section 42985.2 of SB 1118 provides an "opt-out" choice for mattress manufacturers, which leaves no incentive for them to participate in the program to address the dilemma currently being faced by local governments. The Task Force respectfully request that this provision be deleted as an amendment to an otherwise commendable legislative effort.

For these reasons, the Task Force **opposes** SB 1118 **unless it is amended** to remove the opt-out provision. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mike Mohajer of the Task Force at [MikeMohajer@yahoo.com](mailto:MikeMohajer@yahoo.com) or (909) 592-1147.

Sincerely,



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

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cc: Senator Loni Hancock  
Each member of the Senate Appropriations Committee  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
San Fernando Valley 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 Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force