



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/  
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
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GAIL FARBER, CHAIR  
MARGARET CLARK, VICE - CHAIR

August 8, 2013

The Honorable Wesley Chesbro, Chair  
Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 164  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblyman Chesbro:

**SENATE BILL 254 (AMENDED AUGUST 6, 2013) – OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED  
SOLID WASTE: USED MATTRESSES: RECYCLING AND RECOVERY**

The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force (Task Force) is a longtime supporter of efforts to promote product stewardship but must respectfully **opposes** Senate Bill 254 (SB 254) **unless amended** to addresses the following concerns:

- The proposal needs to ensure that urban and rural local governments as well as participating solid waste facilities are provided with mechanisms for the recovery of illegally dumped used mattresses including, but not limited to, collecting, transporting, storing, processing, and/or disposing of used mattresses at no additional cost to these entities.
- The visible fee will trigger Prop. 26 and thus require a 2/3 majority vote for passage. The mattress recycling organization should internalize the cost of recovery and recycling and eliminate visible fees on consumers to finance the program.
- The structure of the mattress recycling organization should be expanded to include representation by local governments and the solid waste industry.
- The bill needs to specify what qualifies as contamination or require the development of proper handling, transportation, and sanitation/management procedures to ensure that bedbugs and blood borne pathogens do not migrate to new mattresses, homes, or affect public health and safety.
- The bill needs to recognize that state law (AB 341, Chapter 476 of the 2011 state statutes) establishes the statewide diversion goal of 75% by January 1, 2020, through source reduction, recycling or composting measures rather than solely based on “recycling” as incorrectly referred to in the bill’s Legislative findings and declarations section (emphasis added).

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As provided by AB 939 (1989) and Chapter 3.67 of the Los Angeles County Code, the Task Force is responsible for coordinating the development of major solid waste planning documents for Los Angeles County and the 88 cities in the County, with a population of over ten million. The Task Force also addresses issues impacting the solid waste management system on a countywide basis.

Again, the Task Force has a long history of supporting EPR efforts. However, we are **opposed** to SB 254 **unless amended** to address the key issues above. 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: Senators Loni Hancock and Lou Correa  
Each Member of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
Each Member of the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force