



RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES
OF CALIFORNIA

June 19, 2023

The Honorable Josh Newman
Member, California State Senate
1021 O Street, Room 6520
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 707 – Support
As Amended May 23, 2023**

Dear Senator Newman:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we are pleased to support your Senate Bill 707, regarding textile recycling. RCRC is an association of forty rural California counties and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from each of those member counties.

Senate Bill 707 requires textile manufacturers to establish stewardship organizations for the collection, transportation, and recycling of used textiles that are no longer suitable for reuse by consumers. Importantly, SB 707 ensures that consumers throughout the state – including rural areas - will have convenient access to free takeback and recycling opportunities.

Local governments are already strained with implementing other aspects of solid waste recycling and disposal programs. Counties are under constant pressure to increase solid waste diversion to achieve the state's goal to divert 75% of solid waste from landfill disposal. As such we believe that SB 707 appropriately extends responsibility for end-of-life recycling of textiles to the manufacturers who introduce those products into the marketplace.

Textiles like apparels, towels, linens, sheets, drapes, mats, tablecloths, napkins, and fabric are commonly disposed and make up a substantial portion of the commercial and residential waste streams. When goods are over-produced, they often end up in the waste stream where they can be difficult to manage. Currently, a manufacturer's obligation to address these issues ends once the product is introduced into the marketplace, where the burden for managing the materials is shifted to local governments and solid waste enterprises. SB 707 requires textile manufacturers to develop programs to facilitate the recovery and recycling of textiles, thereby helping local governments and

1215 K Street, Suite 1650, Sacramento, CA 95814 | www.rcrcnet.org | 916.447.4806 | Fax: 916.448.3154

ALPINE · AMADOR · BUTTE · CALAVERAS · COLUSA · DEL NORTE · EL DORADO · GLENN · HUMBOLDT · IMPERIAL · INYO · KINGS · LAKE · LASSEN
MADERA · MARIPOSA · MENDOCINO · MERCED · MODOC · MONO · MONTEREY · NAPA · NEVADA · PLACER · PLUMAS · SAN BENITO · SAN LUIS OBISPO
SANTA BARBARA · SHASTA · SIERRA · SISKIYOU · SOLANO · SONOMA · SUTTER · TEHAMA · TRINITY · TULARE · TUOLUMNE · YOLO · YUBA

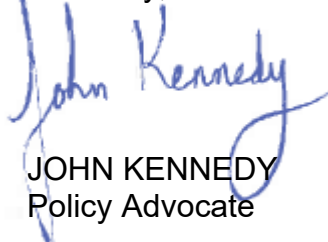
The Honorable Josh Newman
Senate Bill 707
June 19, 2023
Page 2

the state increase recycling, reduce disposal levels, and relieve taxpayers of the burdens of funding those actions.

Finally, RCRC appreciates that SB 707 allows entities like local solid waste facilities and transfer stations to participate in local collection efforts and be reimbursed the costs of managing those items by the stewardship organization.

For these reasons, RCRC is pleased to support SB 707. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at jkennedy@rcrcnet.org.

Sincerely,



JOHN KENNEDY
Policy Advocate

cc: The Honorable Nancy Skinner, Member, California State Senate
The Honorable Scott Wiener, Member, California State Senate
The Honorable Luz Rivas, Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Members of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Elizabeth MacMillan, Consultant, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Casey Dunn, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus