



February 2, 2022

**Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301**

RE: Senate Bill 1576: Mattress Stewardship Program

Dear Chair Lieber and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environment:

I am writing you in support of Senate Bill 1576. This legislation would establish a mattress stewardship program in Oregon.

The International Sleep Products Association (ISPA) represents mattress manufacturers, as well as those that provide components and services to mattress companies. ISPA supports product stewardship efforts and has taken steps to improve the long-term environmental sustainability of the mattress industry's operations and products. These efforts include creating a non-profit entity called the Mattress Recycling Council (MRC), which has operated successful mattress recycling programs in California, Connecticut and Rhode Island for the past six years. ISPA has worked with Senator Manning, Senator Dembrow and interested stakeholders to craft legislation to create a mattress recycling program in Oregon based on these successful programs.

By way of background, the existing mattress recycling programs that MRC has developed and administered are subject to the state's oversight. MRC contracts with third parties to collect, transport and process mattresses discarded in the state and to fund education and outreach to consumers. This provides for no-cost and accessible state-wide opportunities for residents and businesses to discard their used mattresses. Through this model, MRC recycles nearly 2 million units annually and has recycled over 9 million units total during its six years of operations. The mattress industry designed MRC so that its activities can be expanded relatively easily to additional states that enact legislation consistent with the existing programs.

Enacting SB 1576 would increase mattress recycling, divert mattress from landfills, relieve municipal financial burdens, establish new convenient locations for residents to drop off their mattress, and create recycling-sector jobs. SB 1576 represents a tremendous public-private partnership that would benefit Oregon consumers, local governments and the environment. **We urge your support.**

Sincerely,

Marie Clarke

VP, Policy and Government Affairs

International Sleep Products Association