



SIERRA CLUB

OREGON CHAPTER

SB 1576 – Mattress Recycling

Testimony by Terry J. Harris, Sierra Club Oregon Chapter Legislative Committee
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment - February 2, 2022

The Sierra Club Oregon Chapter submits this **testimony in favor of SB 1576**, legislation that would establish a statewide recycling program for mattresses, one of the most problematic items in the state’s waste stream. The product stewardship approach is an appropriate strategy and one that has proven to be successful in Oregon for electronics, paint, and drugs, and successful in several other states for mattresses.

This bill provides for convenient mattress disposal options statewide and ensures that mattresses are handled in a manner that protects the environment and emphasizes recycling. A successful program will reduce the illegal dumping of mattresses and make the disposal of mattresses easier for both consumers and institutions. All, while providing many new recycling-sector jobs. We thank the sponsors and the committee for bringing this bill forward, and we urge a favorable vote.

The Oregon Chapter of the Sierra Club represents some 63,000 members and supporters as the state chapter of the oldest conservation organization in the United States.

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