



September 16, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
 Governor of California
 1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 729 (Chu) – Carpet Recycling – SUPPORT

Dear Governor Newsom,

The entities listed above proudly **SUPPORT AB 729**, a necessary measure to protect California fee payer money as requested by CalRecycle in the October 2018 Request for Approval and will continue to work towards a fair sharing of responsibility for government and private sectors to achieve a circular economy.

The current carpet stewardship program the Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) has not met goals set in statute resulting in California fee payers unable to recycle their carpet, local government bearing the costs of waste management, recyclable materials in landfills, and missed opportunities to expand California’s carpet recycling infrastructure. AB 729 provides the necessary mechanisms to avoid disruptions to recycling infrastructure and protect consumer fee money if a stewardship program is revoked.

In 2010 California became the only government in the world to require carpet manufacturers to implement a stewardship program to increase the recycling of carpet (AB 2398, Perez). The California carpet stewardship program requirements were substantially improved in 2017 by the passage of AB 1158 by Assemblymember Kansen Chu. However, the key reform still needed is in AB 729 to ensure California fee payer money is returned to California promptly (bridge plan) if

the Stewardship Organization (now CARE) is revoked from being the program operator to prevent disruption of subsidy payments to California collectors and recyclers.

CalRecycle is expected to decide by September 2019 if the CARE met their programmatic requirements and if the program authority is revoked, AB 729 would protect California's businesses and ensure the \$15.5 million in California fee money is returned by CARE for another stewardship organization to take over and run the program.

Governor Newsom's signature on AB 729 is vital to guaranteeing that feepayer money is returned to California to continue support the state's carpet recycling infrastructure.

We, the undersigned, strongly **support AB 729** and respectfully request that you **SIGN** this measure.

Respectfully,



Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director
National Stewardship Action Council



Doug Kobold, Executive Director
California Product Stewardship Council

Attached: Sign-on list of organizations

Nate Miley, County Supervisor, District 4
Alameda County

Christopher Chin, Executive Director
The Center for Oceanic Awareness,
Research, and Education (COARE)

Leslie Mintz Tamminen, Director
Seventh Generation Advisors

Andria Ventura, Toxics Program Manager
Clean Water Action/Clean Water Fund

Joe LaMariana, Executive Director
Rethink Waste

Miriam Gordon, Program Director
UPSTREAM

Al Rich, President/Founder
ACR Solar

Wendy Sommer, Executive Director
StopWaste

Colleen Foster, President
California Resource Recovery Association

Rachel Ross, Agency Manager
Tehama County Solid Waste Management
Agency

Shell Cleave, Founder
Sea Hugger

Michael Gross, Director of Sustainability
Zanker Recycling

Anna Cummins, Co-Founder and Executive
Director
The 5 Gyres Institute

LaRhea Pepper, Managing Director
Textile Exchange

Dianna Cohen, Chief Executive Officer
Plastic Pollution Coalition

Nick Lapis, Director of Advocacy
Californians Against Waste



Kevin Bell, P.E., Deputy Executive Director
Western Placer Waste Management
Authority



Jeff Gearhart, Research Director
Ecology Center



Eric Zetz, Chair
SWANA California Chapter's Legislative
Task Force



David Stitzhal, President
Full Circle Environmental, Inc.



Lori Marra, Environmental Specialist
City of Fremont



Stiv Wilson, Campaigns Director
The Story of Stuff Project



Larry Klein, Mayor
City of Sunnyvale



Angela T. Howe, Esq., Legal Director
Surfrider Foundation



Rachel Mulrenan, Campaigns Advisor
Changing Markets Foundation



Ruth Abbe, President
Zero Waste USA

David Krueger

David Krueger, President
NCRA Board of Directors



Katherine O'Dea, Executive Director
Save Our Shores

Rachel Brandon

Rachel Brandon, Staff Analyst
County of Fresno Department of Public Works



Mati Waiya, Executive Director
Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation