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Environmental Services Division

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July 17, 2017

Subject: **Comments on the Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) proposed 2018 Program Budget and 2016 Annual Report**

Dear CalRecycle,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) proposed 2018 budget and 2016 annual report for the California Mattress Stewardship Program.

The most notable element in the MRC's proposed 2018 budget is the reduction of the charge that the consumer pays at the point of sale for a mattress or foundation by approximately 5% (from \$11 to \$10.50) based on MRC's actual 2016 costs and revenues and projected costs and revenues through 2018. The proposed charge will be effective beginning January 2018 if approved by Calrecycles.

The City of Oakland recommends maintaining the \$11 charge to the consumer, and increasing the communication budget that is allocated at 10% (3,307,981) of the total used mattress program expenses 33,079,299 in the 2018 proposed budget.

Specifically, the additional funds can be dedicated to:

- Incentivizing the retailers to provide free pick-up of the used old mattress when they deliver the new one to a customer; and
- Creating an aggressive California public education to retailers about the requirements of the Used Mattress Recovery Act (SB254) including the free pick-up of used mattresses. Currently MRC uses its national brand "Bye Bye" mattress to inform customers and retailers about SB254.

Secondly in the 2016 Annual Report, MRC reports that they inform members of the mattress industry including retailers about the requirement of SB254 to offer free collection or take back at no cost of the used mattress. The information given to retailers need to communicate clearly the requirements of the law including connecting retailers with mattress recycling facilities. One Oakland retailer mentioned in a phone survey that they would take a used mattress if they knew where to take it. Finally, retailers should be required to inform customers that free collection/take-back is available.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ferial Mosley".

Ferial Mosley
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