



# St. Vincent de Paul

## Society of Lane County, Inc.

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Greetings, Senators Manning and Dembrow.

I am writing in support of SB 1564 to create a statewide mattress recycling program.

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County has seen the benefits of such statewide programs in three states around the country, those being California, Connecticut and Rhode Island. There are many benefits to a statewide mattress recycling program: It dramatically decreases the amount of abandoned mattresses in right of ways, alleys and vacant lots; it creates jobs and employment for disadvantaged populations; it also decreases the amount of solid waste going to landfills; finally it creates raw materials for a variety of industries.

In short, it is a win-win for our state. St. Vincent de Paul has been recycling mattresses in Oregon and California for over 20 years. During that time St. Vincent de Paul alone has recycled over 3 million mattresses. This is a great job development program for the people we serve and would be an ideal way to help other organizations create similar programs.

This bill is not a partisan issue. Most states where mattress stewardships have been developed were supported on a bi-partisan basis. I believe this would be the same here in Oregon. I strongly urge you to pass this valuable legislation, so that we may have this remarkably valuable program instituted as soon as possible for the benefit of the people of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Terrence R. McDonald  
Executive Director  
St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Inc.