

SB 1576 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

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Meeting Dates: 2/21, 2/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

SB 1576 establishes a program to collect and manage discarded mattresses. The program is to be run by a stewardship organization, with oversight from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). DEQ will be advised by a mattress stewardship program advisory committee that meets at least annually.

To administer this program DEQ will:

- Approve a stewardship organization’s plan for the discarded mattress program;
- Approve a fee that will be charged by mattress retailers when a mattress is sold, and transmitted to the stewardship organization to cover the costs of the discarded mattress program;
- Establish an annual fee that will be paid by the stewardship organization to cover DEQ costs to administer, implement, and enforce the program;
- Review and approve annual reports and any plan changes submitted by the stewardship organization; and
- Investigate program violations; and,
- Adopt rules to administer this act.

This measure also establishes the Mattress Stewardship Fund, separate and distinct from the General Fund, with monies in the fund continuously appropriated to DEQ to enact this measure. This measure is operative on January 1, 2023, and initial plans for mattress stewardship programs must be submitted to DEQ by October 1, 2023. Programs must be implemented no later than seven months after the plan is approved by DEQ. The measure takes effect on the 91st day after the Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Fiscal impact of the measure
- Inclusion of mattresses and box springs as part of the stewardship program
- Availability of drop off locations in rural areas

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2009, Oregon became the first state in the nation to enact a paint product stewardship program. At least three states have a mattress stewardship program - California, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. The programs aim to provide easy options for recycling, upcycling, and discarding the various materials found in mattresses, and require mattress manufacturers to implement statewide recycling programs. Similar to other product stewardship programs, the program is financed by an assessment at the point of sale which is remitted to a product stewardship organization that is responsible for offering collection and recycling services and consumer education. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, fees range from \$9 to \$16 per mattress purchase.

SB 1576 would establish a statewide mattress product stewardship program for the recovery and recycling of used mattresses. The measure requires the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to certify a stewardship organization to implement and administer the program, which would be financed by an assessment at the point of sale. The amount of the assessment must be proposed by the organization and approved by DEQ. Producers,

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renovators, and retailers would be required to register with the stewardship organization and remit assessment funds to the organization. The organization would be required to provide free collection and recycling service throughout the state and report annually to DEQ.

PRELIMINARY