



March 16, 2026

The Honorable Damon Connolly  
Chair, Committee on Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials  
Swing Space, Suite 5240  
Sacramento, CA 95814



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Submitted via Position Letter Portal

**RE: Recalled Products Update to AB 1860 (Huffman, 2008) – SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Connolly,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we support **AB 2462 (Pellerin)** which updates California’s Product Recall Safety and Protection Act. The Product Recall Safety and Protection Act protects consumers and creates clear standards for manufacturers to follow for recalled and defective products. Unfortunately, due to a lack of enforcement and transparency, recalled items end up in reuse, recycling, or other solid waste programs, putting consumers, businesses, and local government at risk.

As required by AB 1860 (Huffman, 2008), when the Federal Consumer Product Safety Commission issues a product recall, the manufacturer of that product is responsible for providing consumers and retailers with a means to return the recalled product at no additional cost. However, the law didn’t account for consumers and retailers who instead send the products to recycling or waste collection sites or secondhand retailers, in many instances at the direction of the manufacturer. Current law also does not account for the cost to local governments, public entities, and secondhand retailers of receiving recalled products and properly managing them. Seventeen

years after the passage of AB 1860, recalled products continue to end up at public collection sites and resale donation sites, becoming a financial and logistical burden for those program operators.

In 2025 alone, there were a total of 422 individual product recalls wherein the Federal Consumer Product Safety Commission deemed these covered products unsafe for consumers. This represented over 34 million recalled units. Of these recalled units, just under 25 million required a refund and/or replacement by the manufacturer. The remaining 9 million were offered a repair part, if the consumer chose to request one.

For example, Anker issued a recall of around 1.5 million of its Power Core power banks due to serious fire concerns. Instead of being returned to the manufacturer, many of these units ended up at local government solid waste and recycling facilities. Damaged products, such as these recalled batteries, require special handling for the safety of the workers and facilities, resulting in increased labor and costs. For example, the cost of properly packaging a recalled battery power pack for return to the manufacturer ranges from \$3.37 - \$4.20 per unit, or around 10 times the cost of recycling non-recalled battery power packs. During calendar year 2025, nearly 3.4 million recalled units were lithium-ion battery related, representing 13.6% of the number of units recalled under a refund and/or replace remedy. That 13.6% of units spanned 36 different products.

Further, secondhand retailers incur costs and risk of fines if a recalled product ends up at a resale donation site rather than being effectively taken back by the manufacturer. As a result of the sheer number of recalled products that get inadvertently donated to secondhand retailers, many of these retailers have instituted robust training and identification programs to ensure these recalled products do not get reinserted back into commerce. These identification programs have resulted in high costs being absorbed by these secondhand retailers for items that cannot just be landfilled because of their level of hazard or toxicity.

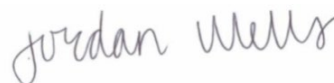
This bill would add local governments and secondhand retailers to the list of entities able to return a recalled product to the manufacturer at no cost to that entity. The bill would also increase the civil penalties for violations and provide the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery with clear enforcement authority.

For these reasons, we support **AB 2462** and appreciate your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Doug Kobold, Executive Director  
California Product Stewardship  
Council



Jordan Wells, Legislative Advocate  
California State Association of Counties



Phoebe Schenker, Executive Director  
Reuse Alliance



Tony Hackett, Policy Associate  
Californians Against Waste



Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director/CEO  
National Stewardship Action Council



Melissa Sparks-Kranz, Legislative Advocate  
League of California Cities



Suzanne Hume, Educational Director &  
Founder  
CleanEarth4Kids.org



Julia Mangin, Director of Sustainability &  
Government Affairs  
Recology



John Kennedy, Senior Policy Advocate  
Rural County Representatives of CA



Ramesh Srinivasan, Founder & CEO  
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Susy Borlido, Co-Executive Director  
Sustainable Works

Patrick Gibbs

Patrick Gibbs, Executive Director  
Landbell USA



Ryan Klein, Director of Operations  
EkoLinq