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**Subject:** PRESS RELEASE: Assemblymember Gail Pellerin Introduces Legislation to Hold Manufacturers Accountable for Dangerous Recalls  
**Date:** Friday, February 20, 2026 3:14:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [image005.png](#)  
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## PRESS RELEASE



### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 20, 2026

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## Assemblymember Gail Pellerin Introduces Legislation to Hold Manufacturers Accountable for Dangerous Recalls

(Sacramento, CA) – Federal regulations for product recalls have been firmly in place since the 1970s. However, the increasing complexity of modern goods and supply chains has led to a sharp rise in safety risks, leaving underfunded recovery systems struggling to keep pace with today's hazardous defects.

In 2025, millions of Anker brand battery packs were recalled. The recall placed the responsibility on the consumer to find an appropriate facility and to properly dispose of the item.

Assemblymember Gail Pellerin has introduced legislation, AB 2462, co-sponsored by the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) and the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), to hold manufacturers accountable for dangerous recalls. This legislation updates a state law passed in 2008, (AB 1860, Huffman), which added additional state requirements to any manufacturer facing a federal recall.

Unfortunately, since the passage of this bill, many producers have directed consumers to bring these recalled items to public solid waste facilities instead of returning them to the manufacturer. The result has been an explosion in costs for local public agencies and unfair burden on secondhand retailers to ensure unsafe products aren't re-entering the market.

"We've had a law on the books for nearly two decades that holds those responsible for creating the product in the first place, also responsible for proper management of those recalled products at their expense. The changes proposed under AB 2462 will make the existing law more effective," said Assemblymember Pellerin.

Why have recalled products become a challenge? While federal safety standards and recall protocols have existed for decades, the frequency of product recalls has hit record highs recently. Many products on the market today pose greater risks than they did when the program was created due to complex electronic components and hazardous chemicals. Recalled products require a broad range of disposal methods, from landfilling to hazardous waste management. When improperly disposed of, a battery-embedded device, like a small power bank for example, can cause fires in collection trucks and at solid waste and recycling facilities, exposing facility workers and emergency responders to toxic airborne particulates normally associated with fires.

"While recalled products are problematic for the consumer who purchased that product, that is not the end of the burden," said Doug Kobold, Executive Director for CPSC. "When not properly managed, these products can pose significant risks to the environment and pose unnecessary health risks to those people who are charged with properly handling our discards."

### **Take Action Today**

For more information on current product hazards and to see if items in your home have been flagged for safety risks, please visit the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission at [cpsc.gov/recalls](http://cpsc.gov/recalls).

If you have experienced a recall for any products you own, wherein the manufacturer did not safely take the products back, please contact your elected officials.

"AB 2462 restores accountability by ensuring manufacturers — not local taxpayers — bear the cost of managing dangerous recalls. As recalls grow more complex and costly, this measure protects public safety and shields limited local resources from avoidable burdens," said Colusa County Supervisor and CSAC Second Vice President, Kent Boes.

Assemblymember Pellerin and the bill co-sponsors invite community organizations, safety advocates, and fellow legislators to join our growing movement for manufacturer responsibility. You can formally endorse this legislation and receive updates on its progress by signing onto the official Co-Sponsors Coalition Letter at <https://tinyurl.com/Recalled-Products>.

*[Assemblymember Gail Pellerin](#) represents California's 28th Assembly District including Santa Cruz County and parts of Santa Clara County. She chairs the Assembly Elections Committee and the Select Committee on California's Mental Health Crisis. Courtesy photos can be found [HERE](#).*

*California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit educating both the public and private sectors about Product Stewardship and Extended Producer Responsibility. CPSC partners with business, jurisdictions, waste and recycling companies, manufacturers, and others to promote and encourage sustainable practices. For more information, please go to: [www.CalPSC.org](http://www.CalPSC.org)*

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