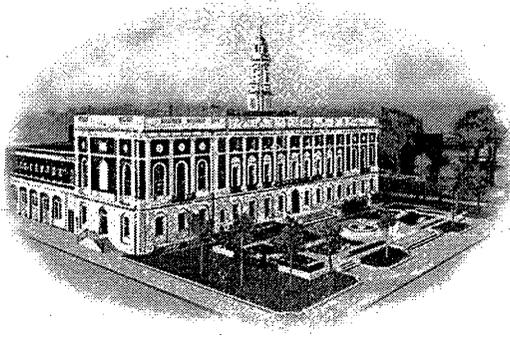


LOUIS J. SPINA, JR.  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS



NEIL M. O'LEARY  
MAYOR

**THE CITY OF WATERBURY**  
CONNECTICUT  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Date: March 8, 2013

To: Ct. Environmental Committee

Re: Raised Bill No. 6437

Mr. Chairman,

Attached is an outline of my testimony from last year supporting the proposed mattress stewardship program in Connecticut. I had intended to come to Hartford this morning to testify again. However, due to my responsibilities with snow removal operations; I had to remain in Waterbury.

If approved, this legislation will benefit the taxpayers of Waterbury by shifting the burden from the population at large to the individuals that are actually disposing of the mattresses and box springs. In addition, I feel that having a means to dispose of properly would also help reduce illegal dumping. This would ultimately help all municipalities' combat unwanted blight.

Lastly, there is also an economic benefit to Connecticut. The permitted recyclers will provide needed employment.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 203-574-6851, ext. 7177.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Louis J. Spina, Jr.

Louis J. Spina, Jr.  
Provisional Director of Public Works

Good morning/afternoon,

My name is Louis J. Spina Jr., I'm the Provisional Director of Public Works for the City of Waterbury. Prior to this most recent appointment, I spent the last ten years serving as the Supervisor of Refuse in Waterbury.

I'm here today to support the legislation that will place the recycling/disposal costs associated with mattresses and box springs back with the manufacturers, and provides relief to the cities and towns of Connecticut.

Waterbury, as with all municipalities, struggles to provide a constant level of services to our residents while trying to find ways to fund these programs.

During the past two fiscal years this struggle was made more challenging with the surcharges associated with mattress/ box spring disposal. Waterbury collected between 6,000 to 7,000 mattresses and box springs over that same period. We currently have to pay between \$20 and \$30 disposal fees for each one of those mattresses and box springs. In addition to the nearly 3 million dollars for waste disposal, this number has been increased between \$150K and \$200k because of these surcharges.

We offer curbside bulky waste collections to the residents of Waterbury, as well as has a city owned and operated transfer station where the residents can drop these items off as well. If we were to discontinue these offerings, the challenge of keeping the city clean would become more difficult. I would also imagine an increase problem with illegal dumping.