

## Recyc-Mattresses Corp



Members of the Environment Committee of the Connecticut Legislature; my name is Pascal Cohen and I am here to speak in support of Senate Bill HB 6437, An Act Establishing A Mattress Stewardship Program.

I am the owner and President of Recyc-Mattresses, an international mattress recycling company with locations in Canada, US and Europe. We have been recycling mattresses for the past 7 years with a minimum recycling rate of 95%.

I came to Connecticut in November 2011, after learning from industry representatives that Connecticut municipalities were engaged in a dialogue about mattress disposal issues. I learned that the mattress disposal is fragmented, costly and not focused on the economic value associated with recycling.

Seeing the legislative climate of support for recycling businesses as well as the need for a mattress recycling facility; we've decided to invested over \$500 000 and opened a 17,000 square feet facility in Bloomfield Connecticut on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2012. This facility pays its taxes to the town, to the state and has hired 6 employees up-to-date.

According to the United States Census Bureau, Connecticut population was 3,590,347 which mean that approximately 350,000 mattresses were discarded in 2012 for which only 40,000 were recycled.

Bill HB 6437 would help recycle those 350,000 mattresses; eliminate 10, 500 tons from the waste stream; cut \$10.5 million of disposal cost for the state (based on a \$30 per piece for disposal); create an additional 40 jobs. The same way it did at our other mattress recycling facilities in France and Canada when a similar Bill was introduced.

Bill HB 6437 can create opportunity for my business to grow, making this project a viable environmentally friendly solution for this waste stream while increasing the state's recycling rate.

I hope that this helps in giving a better understanding of the need for this Bill as well as ensure the viability of our company and its employees.

Please do not hesitate in contacting me if you have any questions.

Regards,

Pascal Cohen

President Recyc-Mattresses

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