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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **sSB 341**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING CLOTHING FIBER POLLUTION.***

#### **SUMMARY**

By July 1, 2018, this bill requires the energy and environmental commissioner, in consultation with the consumer protection commissioner, to convene a working group to develop a consumer awareness and education program about synthetic microfibers in clothing. He must report to the Environment Committee by January 1, 2019 on the group's efforts and any recommendations for legislation on the program and to reduce microfibers in the state's waterways.

Under the bill, the program must include:

1. consumer oriented information on how clothing sheds synthetic microfibers and they end up in the state's waterways;
2. best practices for consumers to reduce and eliminate having the microfibers end up in the waterways; and
3. information on how apparel industry members, including brand labels, are working to reduce or eliminate microfibers in clothing.

The bill requires the working group to consist of representatives of the apparel industry and the environmental community.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

#### **INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES**

The bill designates the following seven industry organizations as those who must be included in the working group:

1. Sustainable Apparel Coalition;

2. American Apparel and Footwear Association;
3. American Apparel and Producer's Network;
4. Fashion Group International;
5. National Retail Federation;
6. Council of Fashion Designers of America; and
7. Fashion Business, Inc.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 25 Nay 5 (03/22/2018)