



General Assembly

February Session, 2018

Raised Bill No. 341

LCO No. 1411



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING CLOTHING FIBER POLLUTION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than December 1,
2 2018, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection, in
3 consultation with the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, shall
4 convene a working group of representatives of the apparel industry
5 and the environmental community for the purpose of developing a
6 consumer awareness and education program that consists, in part, of a
7 clothing labeling component designed to readily alert consumers of the
8 presence of synthetic microfibers in an article of clothing prior to the
9 purchase of such clothing. Such program shall also include, but not be
10 limited to, consumer oriented information that explains the process by
11 which such microfibers are shed from clothing and are dispersed in the
12 state's waterways, best practices for consumers to eliminate and reduce
13 the disbursement of microfibers from clothing into the waterways of
14 the state and information on efforts that members of the apparel
15 industry, including, but not limited to, brand labels, are undertaking to
16 reduce or eliminate microfibers in clothing. The working group shall

17 include, but not be limited to, a representative of each of the following
18 organizations: (1) The Sustainable Apparel Coalition, (2) the American
19 Apparel and Footwear Association, (3) the American Apparel and
20 Producer's Network, (4) Fashion Group International, (5) the National
21 Retail Federation, (6) the Council of Fashion Designers of America, and
22 (7) Fashion Business, Inc. All components of such program shall be
23 implemented not later than December 1, 2019.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a consumer awareness, education and clothing labeling program that is intended to reduce the amount of microfiber plastic in the state's waterways.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]