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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to take appropriate actions to advance textile circularity, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. PINGREE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to take appropriate actions to advance textile circularity, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Textile Waste Reduc-

5 tion Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ACTIONS RELATING TO TEXTILE CIRCULARITY.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall take such

8 actions as may be necessary or appropriate to advance tex-

1 tile circularity, including prescribing regulations as the
2 Administrator determines necessary to carry out this Act.

3 (b) COORDINATION.—In carrying out this section, the
4 Administrator shall coordinate and collaborate with cov-
5 ered stakeholders and take into account the findings and
6 activities of the Interagency Working Group and the Advi-
7 sory Board.

8 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL TEXTILE CIRCULARITY STRATEGY.**

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall es-
10 tablish and implement a national strategy, to be known
11 as the National Textile Circularity Strategy, to advance
12 textile circularity.

13 (b) CONSULTATION; PUBLIC COMMENT.—In devel-
14 oping the National Textile Circularity Strategy, the Ad-
15 ministrator shall—

16 (1) provide an opportunity for public comment
17 regarding the National Textile Circularity Strategy
18 for no fewer than 60 days; and

19 (2) in addition to providing such opportunity,
20 solicit input from covered stakeholders, which may
21 take the form of a public hearing, a workshop, or
22 the solicitation of written input.

23 (c) NEEDS ASSESSMENT.—

24 (1) REQUIREMENT.—The Administrator shall,
25 in consultation with States, units of local govern-

1 ment, Tribal representatives, and the Interagency
2 Working Group, prepare, and include in the Na-
3 tional Textile Circularity Strategy, a needs assess-
4 ment that identifies the actions, data, and funding
5 needed to implement the National Textile Circularity
6 Strategy.

7 (2) METHODOLOGY FOR COLLECTING DATA.—
8 In carrying out this subsection, the Administrator
9 shall—

10 (A) develop a methodology to be used by
11 the Administrator to collect data identified as
12 needed in the needs assessment described in
13 paragraph (1); and

14 (B) identify the resources needed to imple-
15 ment such methodology.

16 (3) CONTENTS.—The needs assessment de-
17 scribed in paragraph (1) shall include—

18 (A) an identification of the types of data
19 needed to implement the National Textile Cir-
20 cularity Strategy, including data relating to the
21 scope and scale of textiles, disaggregated by
22 material composition or product type, that are
23 landfilled, combusted to recover energy, recov-
24 ered, or exported;

1 (B) data collected during the preceding 5-
2 year period by the Environmental Protection
3 Agency, States, and industry on the generation
4 and disposition, disaggregated by material com-
5 position or product type, of textiles, including
6 textiles that are repaired, recycled, combusted
7 to recover energy, landfilled, or exported, for
8 each year in such 5-year period;

9 (C) an analysis of textile repair, textile
10 reuse, textile recovery, textile recycling, and tex-
11 tile hauling within the United States, including
12 at the local government level;

13 (D) an identification of entities involved
14 with such textile repair, textile reuse, textile re-
15 covery, textile recycling, and textile hauling;

16 (E) an identification of Federal laws, and
17 Federal financial assistance and incentives, re-
18 lating to supporting textile repair, textile reuse,
19 textile recovery, textile recycling, and textile
20 hauling;

21 (F) a description of economic conditions
22 relating to textile circularity and the potential
23 to create or scale viable end-markets for pre-
24 owned textiles, or textiles that are a result of
25 textile recycling, in the States, regionally in the

1 United States, and globally, including an anal-
2 ysis of the potential economic effect of such cre-
3 ation or scaling;

4 (G) an analysis of the barriers (including
5 Federal, State, or local laws that present bar-
6 riers, and any gaps in legal authority that
7 present barriers) to implementation of the Na-
8 tional Textile Circularity Strategy, or to scaling
9 textile recycling, and potential solutions to such
10 barriers, which may include—

11 (i) an analysis of the cost of recov-
12 ering textiles and developing any infra-
13 structure needed to implement the Na-
14 tional Textile Circularity Strategy or scale
15 textile recycling;

16 (ii) workforce needs; and

17 (iii) funding solutions; and

18 (H) an identification of any need by the
19 public for education on textile circularity, and
20 methods by which the Administrator may pro-
21 vide such education.

22 (d) INITIAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
23 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Admin-
24 istrator shall submit to Congress the National Textile Cir-
25 cularity Strategy.

(e) UPDATES; ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the Administrator submits the National Textile Circularity Strategy under subsection (d), and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall—

(1) update the National Textile Circularity Strategy; and

(2) submit to Congress a report that includes—

(A) the updated National Textile Circularity Strategy; and

(B) any lessons learned from implementing the National Textile Circularity Strategy during the year prior to such report.

(f) PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION ON TEXTILES.—The Administrator shall—

(1) on the date on which the Administrator submits to Congress the National Textile Circularity Strategy, publish on the website of the Environmental Protection Agency the data described in subsection (c)(3)(B) and the municipal solid waste estimation methods;

(2) update and publish such data and any updated methodology at least once a year.

SEC. 4. INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON TEXTILE CIRCULARITY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is established an
2 interagency group, to be known as the Interagency
3 Working Group on Textile Circularity, to coordinate
4 Federal activities on advancing textile circularity, in-
5 cluding Federal activities relating to the develop-
6 ment and implementation of the National Textile
7 Circularity Strategy.

8 (2) CHARTER.—

9 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 225
10 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
11 the heads of the following entities shall develop
12 and execute a charter, memorandum of agree-
13 ment, or similar mechanism to set forth the
14 goals and activities of the Interagency Working
15 Group:

16 (i) The Department of Energy.

17 (ii) The Department of State.

18 (iii) The Environmental Protection
19 Agency.

20 (iv) The Federal Trade Commission.

21 (v) The National Institute of Stand-
22 ards and Technology.

23 (vi) The National Science Foundation.

24 (vii) U.S. Customs and Border Pro-
25 tection.

1 (viii) The White House Office of
2 Science and Technology Policy.

3 (ix) Any other Federal entity that the
4 Administrator determines to be appro-
5 priate.

6 (B) INCORPORATION OF LEADING PRAC-
7 TICES.—In developing and executing such char-
8 ter, memorandum, or mechanism, such heads
9 shall, as applicable, follow, or incorporate into
10 the charter, memorandum, or mechanism, the
11 leading practices for interagency collaboration
12 set forth by the Government Accountability Of-
13 fice, including that each member of the Inter-
14 agency Working Group shall sign such charter,
15 memorandum, or mechanism.

16 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after
18 the execution of the charter, memorandum of agree-
19 ment, or similar mechanism under subsection (a)(2),
20 the head of each of the entities listed in such sub-
21 section shall designate as a member of the Inter-
22 agency Working Group any officer or employee of
23 the entity who has the authority to provide the Fed-
24 eral financial assistance or incentives, personnel, ad-

1 ministrative support, and technical services of the
2 entity.

3 (2) CHAIR.—The Interagency Working Group
4 shall be chaired by the member designated from the
5 Environmental Protection Agency.

6 (c) DUTIES.—The Interagency Working Group
7 shall—

8 (1) assist and advise the Administrator in de-
9 veloping, updating, and implementing the National
10 Textile Circularity Strategy, including by providing
11 data and resources identified as needed in the Na-
12 tional Textile Circularity Strategy;

13 (2) facilitate the sharing of information across
14 the Federal Government, including the White House,
15 regarding the advancement of textile circularity
16 across the United States, including information re-
17 lating to the development and implementation of the
18 National Textile Circularity Strategy;

19 (3) develop a strategy to coordinate Federal
20 interagency efforts to advance textile circularity
21 across the Federal Government, including developing
22 a common framework across the Federal Govern-
23 ment of principles, definitions, data, and methods
24 related to such efforts, in furtherance of the activi-
25 ties of the National Textile Circularity Strategy; and

1 (4) make recommendations to each entity listed
2 in subsection (a)(2) regarding the strategy to coordi-
3 nate Federal interagency efforts developed under
4 paragraph (3).

5 (d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Chair of the Inter-
6 agency Working Group shall—

7 (1) not fewer than 60 days before the Chair of
8 the Interagency Working Group submits a report on
9 the findings and activities of the Interagency Work-
10 ing Group under paragraph (3), submit to the Advi-
11 sory Board a draft of such report;

12 (2) update such report, as appropriate, to ad-
13 dress any recommendations submitted by the Advi-
14 sory Board; and

15 (3) not later than 1 year after the date on
16 which the Interagency Working Group is established,
17 and not less frequently than once every 2 years
18 thereafter, submit to Congress such report.

19 **SEC. 5. ADVISORY BOARD TO THE INTERAGENCY WORKING**
20 **GROUP.**

21 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Chair of the Interagency
22 Working Group shall establish an Advisory Board to the
23 Interagency Working Group, to provide ongoing advice to
24 the Interagency Working Group on matters relating to
25 Federal activities on textile circularity, including by—

1 (1) providing ongoing advice on the develop-
2 ment of, updates to, and implementation of the Na-
3 tional Textile Circularity Strategy; and

4 (2) reviewing the draft described in section 4(d)
5 and making recommendations to the Interagency
6 Working Group on such draft.

7 (b) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS.—

8 (1) SOLICITATION OF NOMINATIONS AND REC-
9 OMMENDATIONS.—

10 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270
11 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
12 the Chair of the Interagency Working Group
13 shall establish and carry out a process for solie-
14 iting, from the members of the Interagency
15 Working Group and the public, any nomination
16 or recommendation, respectively, of an indi-
17 vidual for appointment to the Advisory Board.

18 (B) PROCESS REQUIREMENTS.—Such
19 process shall—

20 (i) include the publication of a clear
21 description of the position on the Advisory
22 Board, and any qualifications for such po-
23 sition, in advance of soliciting any nomina-
24 tion or recommendation of an individual
25 for appointment to such position; and

1 (ii) allow individuals to recommend
2 themselves for appointment to the Advisory
3 Board.

4 (2) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—The Chair of
5 the Interagency Working Group shall establish and
6 carry out a process to identify and mitigate conflicts
7 of interest with respect to individuals nominated or
8 recommended for appointment to the Advisory
9 Board, including establishing—

10 (A) requirements for the disclosure by such
11 individuals of any potential or perceived con-
12 flicts of interest; and

13 (B) rules delineating the circumstances in
14 which such an individual is required to be
15 recused or disqualified.

16 (3) APPOINTMENT.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Chair of the Inter-
18 agency Working Group shall appoint members
19 to the Advisory Board, each of whom shall dem-
20 onstrate expertise on the scientific, economic,
21 industry, or community impacts of textile circu-
22 larity or a related field.

23 (B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In appointing
24 members to the Advisory Board, the Chair of
25 the Interagency Working Group shall—

1 (i) give consideration to any individual
2 nominated or recommended for appoint-
3 ment to the Advisory Board; and

4 (ii) ensure that the members of the
5 Advisory Board represent an appropriate
6 balance of—

7 (I) scientific interests;

8 (II) industry interests;

9 (III) the interests of State and
10 local governments and Tribal rep-
11 resentatives; and

12 (IV) geographical interests.

13 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Board shall
15 consist of the following members:

16 (A) 2 members who represent a textile pro-
17 ducer.

18 (B) 1 member who represents a textile re-
19 tailer.

20 (C) 2 members who represent organiza-
21 tions that engage in textile recycling.

22 (D) 1 member who represents the natural
23 sciences in academia and studies textile circu-
24 larity or a related field.

1 (E) 1 member who represents the social
2 sciences in academia and studies textile circu-
3 larity or a related field.

4 (F) 2 members who represent organiza-
5 tions that engage in textile recovery.

6 (G) 2 members who represent organiza-
7 tions that engage in textile repair or textile
8 reuse.

9 (H) 2 members who represent nongovern-
10 mental organizations that the Chair of the
11 Interagency Working Group determines to be
12 relevant.

13 (I) 1 member who represents a local gov-
14 ernment in a policy or regulatory role relating
15 to waste management or disposal, environ-
16 mental regulations, or recycling.

17 (J) 1 member who represents a State gov-
18 ernment or Tribal Government in a policy or
19 regulatory role relating to waste management
20 or disposal, environmental regulations, or recy-
21 cling.

22 (K) The Chair of the Interagency Working
23 Group, who shall serve in an ex-officio capacity
24 and be a non-voting member of the Advisory
25 Board.

1 (2) CHAIR.—The Chair of the Interagency
2 Working Group shall appoint 1 member of the Advi-
3 sory Board to serve as the Chair of the Advisory
4 Board.

5 (3) TERM.—Each voting member of the Advi-
6 sory Board—

7 (A) shall be appointed for a 2-year term;

8 (B) may be appointed to no more than 2
9 terms; and

10 (C) may not be appointed to consecutive
11 terms.

12 (d) MEETINGS.—Not less frequently than twice each
13 year, the Advisory Board shall meet at a time and place
14 that the Chair of the Advisory Board designates, in con-
15 sultation with the Chair of the Interagency Working
16 Group.

17 (e) BRIEFING.—The Chair of the Advisory Board
18 shall brief the Interagency Working Group on the findings
19 and activities of the Advisory Board as necessary or at
20 the request of the Interagency Working Group.

21 (f) DURATION.—The Advisory Board shall terminate
22 on the date that is 10 years after the date of enactment
23 of this Act.

1 **SEC. 6. PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION RELATING TO TEX-**
2 **TILE CIRCULARITY.**

3 The Administrator shall—

- 4 (1) identify Federal financial assistance and in-
5 centives, including grants, loans, subsidies, and
6 other funding opportunities, that are available to en-
7 courage and support efforts by States, local govern-
8 ments, Tribal Governments, and nongovernmental
9 organizations to advance textile circularity;
- 10 (2) publish information about such Federal fi-
11 nancial assistance and incentives on the website of
12 the Environmental Protection Agency; and
- 13 (3) update such information at least twice each
14 year.

15 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

16 In this Act:

- 17 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
18 trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-
19 mental Protection Agency.
- 20 (2) ADVISORY BOARD.—The term “Advisory
21 Board” means the Advisory Board to the Inter-
22 agency Working Group established under section 5.
- 23 (3) COVERED STAKEHOLDER.—The term “cov-
24 ered stakeholder” means a representative of—
- 25 (A) an industry that has expertise in tex-
26 tile circularity or a related field;

1 (B) a research community that has exper-
2 tise in textile circularity or a related field;

3 (C) a nongovernmental organization that
4 has expertise in textile circularity or a related
5 field;

6 (D) a State government;

7 (E) a local government; or

8 (F) a Tribal Government.

9 (4) INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.—The term
10 “Interagency Working Group” means the Inter-
11 agency Working Group on Textile Circularity estab-
12 lished under section 4.

13 (5) RECOVER.—The term “recover”, with re-
14 spect to a textile, means the process of collecting,
15 sorting, and processing textile waste for textile re-
16 pair, textile reuse, or textile recycling.

17 (6) STATE.—The term “State” means any of
18 the several States, the District of Columbia, the
19 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any other terri-
20 tory or possession of the United States.

21 (7) TEXTILE.—The term “textile”—

22 (A) means an item made in whole or in
23 part from textile material; and

24 (B) does not include an item, made in
25 whole or in part from textile material, that is—

1 (i) a reusable product designed to col-
2 lect or absorb urine or feces; or

3 (ii) a mattress or piece of furniture.

4 (8) TEXTILE CIRCULARITY.—The term “textile
5 circularity”—

6 (A) means a system of production (includ-
7 ing design) and management of textiles that
8 minimizes the generation of textile waste, maxi-
9 mizes the use of resources (such as energy or
10 water), and keeps textiles in circulation for as
11 long as possible; and

12 (B) includes textile repair, textile reuse,
13 and textile recycling.

14 (9) TEXTILE MATERIAL.—The term “textile
15 material” means natural or synthetic fiber, yarn, or
16 fabric, including leather, cotton, silk, jute, hemp,
17 wool, viscose, nylon, and polyester.

18 (10) TEXTILE PRODUCER.—The term “textile
19 producer” means a person who manufactures a tex-
20 tile and who owns or is the licensee of the brand or
21 trademark under which that textile is offered for
22 sale in, distributed for sale into, or sold in a State.

23 (11) TEXTILE RECYCLING.—The term “textile
24 recycling” means the process of using recovered tex-

1 tiles as raw materials in the production of new tex-
2 tiles.

3 (12) TEXTILE REUSE.—The term “textile
4 reuse” means the use of a pre-owned textile without
5 breaking such textile down into the raw materials of
6 such textile.

7 (13) TEXTILE WASTE.—The term “textile
8 waste”—

9 (A) means any textile or textile material
10 that is discarded, including a textile or textile
11 material discarded by the textile industry or a
12 consumer; and

13 (B) does not include a textile or textile ma-
14 terial that has been recovered.

15 (14) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.—The term “Tribal
16 Government” means the government of an Indian
17 Tribe, as such term is defined in section 4 of the In-
18 dian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
19 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

20 (15) TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVE.—The term
21 “Tribal representative” means a representative of—

22 (A) an Indian Tribe, as such term is de-
23 fined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determina-
24 tion and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.
25 5304); or

1 (B) a Native Hawaiian organization, as
2 such term is defined in section 3 of the NA-
3 TIVE Act (25 U.S.C. 4352).