



MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

FASHION SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

S.4746 – Hoylman-Sigal

(Currently Not Same As)

A.4333A – Kelles

Description: Requires fashion sellers to be accountable to environmental and social standards across their operations and supply chain and establish a fashion remediation fund. Fashion retailers will be required to identify, prevent, mitigate, and take remedial action to address actual and potential adverse impacts to human rights and the environment in their own operations and in their supply chain.

Justification

The fashion industry, especially fast fashion companies, are significantly contributing to climate change, water contamination, deforestation, immense amounts of waste, and exploitation of their workers. This industry has largely been unregulated and as a result they have been able to drastically increase production without consideration of damage to the global environment and social responsibility. Apparel and footwear production is responsible for an estimated 4 -8.6% of global greenhouse gas emissions, by comparison, the U.S. accounts for 11%. Additionally, the fast fashion industry exploits the labor force, predominantly comprised of women of color, especially along its production supply chains. These workers are underpaid, work without health and safety protections, and face higher risks of sexual abuse in the workplace. Without legally binding environmental and social responsibility standards in place, the fashion industry has been left to self-regulate and continue the status quo, which can no longer be accepted.

The Fashion Sustainability and Social Accountability Act will hold the fashion industry accountable by requiring active due diligence and planning to mitigate environmental and social risk. Apparel and footwear retailers generating \$100 million or more in global revenue will be required to set and achieve science-based climate reductions in line with the Paris Agreement, work with their suppliers to effectively manage their chemical use, and measurably improve labor conditions for garment workers.

This legislation will also establish The Fashion Remediation Fund comprised of fines from companies who are out of compliance with the regulation. These funds will be distributed to environmental or labor remediation projects in impacted communities. This legislation will be a global leader in reducing the carbon footprint, labor exploitation, and chemical pollution of the fashion industry.

CITIZENS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT SUPPORTS
(S.4746 / A.4333A) – The Fashion Sustainability and Social Accountability Act

CCE is a 120,000-member non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization that works to empower communities and advocate solutions that protect public health and the natural environment

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