

COUNTY OF MARIN
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

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Matthew H. Hymel
County Administrator

August 7, 2007

Board of Supervisors
County of Marin
San Rafael, CA 94903

Subject: Request from Supervisor McGlashan to support AB 706, a bill that would ban the use of chemical fire retardants from furniture and bedding products and require the use of "green" fire resistant materials in these products.

Dear Board Members:

Recommendation: Approve sending support letter

Summary: At the request of Supervisor McGlashan, we are asking for your Board's action to support AB 706 (Leno), the California Furniture Safety and Fire Prevention Act that bans by January 1, 2010 the use of brominated fire retardants (BFRs) and chlorinated fire retardants (CFRs) in all seating furniture, mattresses, box springs, mattress sets, futons, other bedding products, and reupholstered furniture to which filling materials are added. This bill would reduce the threat from health impacts caused by these retardants. There is no fiscal impact of this bill to the County.

Since this bill is not covered specifically in the County's Legislative Plan, it is recommended that your Board indicate its support by approving the attached letter to send to the bill's author and local delegation. Supporters of the bill include a variety of environmental, labor, and firefighting organizations, including Friends of the Earth, the California Labor Federation, and the California State Firefighters' Association. The County Fire Department has also indicated its support of the bill. Attached is the bill language for your information.

Please feel free to contact me or Matt Bronson on my staff with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,


Matthew Hymel
County Administrator

Attachment