



December 2015

## NOTICE TO MATTRESS RENOVATORS

### Collection of \$11 Recycling Fee Begins December 30, 2015

#### ***You are not currently registered and may be prohibited from selling your products***

California's Used Mattress Recovery & Recycling Act required the mattress industry to create and manage a statewide mattress recycling program. The Mattress Recycling Council is the nonprofit organization created by the mattress industry and certified by CalRecycle to administer this program. This program is funded through an \$11 recycling fee collected on all purchases of new, used and renovated mattresses and box springs. Renovators **must register by December 30, 2015** and participate in order to sell mattresses in California.

#### **Fee Collection**

The fee applies to each mattress and box spring sold directly to California consumers or contract purchasers (hotels, hospitals, universities, etc.). The fee is:

- A flat rate regardless of mattress size or type.
- Charged per unit. Each mattress and each box spring is considered a separate unit.
- Listed on the invoice or sales receipt as "Recycle Fee" followed by the amount.

*The fee does not apply to wholesale transactions.*

#### **How Much is the Fee?**

The recycling fee is \$11 per unit. The law requires those selling mattresses to begin collecting the fee on Dec. 30, 2015.

#### **What Items Are Charged The Fee?**

If your product fits the law's definition of mattress or box spring, the fee will apply.

*See reverse side for definitions and FAQs.*

#### **Annual Reporting**

Beginning in 2017, renovators are required to submit annual reports to CalRecycle and MRC.

#### **Registration & Fee Remittance**

Renovators must register with the program in order to continue selling in the state. Registration is easy and free of charge on [www.MRCreporting.org](http://www.MRCreporting.org). During the registration process, renovators are required to submit either the brand names or Uniform Registration Numbers for the products they sell.

The following resources to assist with the registration process are available:

**Written Guidelines & Step-by-Step Video:** Resources area on [www.MRCreporting.org](http://www.MRCreporting.org)

#### **Technical Support:**

**Phone:** 1-888-646-6815

Available during normal operating hours  
Mon.-Fri. from 9 a.m.—5 p.m. Pacific

#### **Email:**

[support@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org](mailto:support@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org)

Once registered, the fee will be remitted monthly to MRC through this same secure, online portal.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### **Who is a "Renovator"?**

A "renovator" is defined as any person who renovates discarded mattresses for the purpose of reselling such mattresses to consumers.

Renovation includes altering a mattress for the purpose of resale including any one, or a combination of, the following: replacing the ticking or filling, adding additional filling, or replacing components with new or recycled materials.

*See Reverse Side for More Definitions and Frequently Asked Questions*

 Mattress Recycling Council

#### **For more information:**

Toll Free: 1-855-229-1691

[info@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org](mailto:info@mattressrecyclingcouncil.org)



[www.mattressrecyclingcouncil.org](http://www.mattressrecyclingcouncil.org)

## DEFINITIONS & FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### How does the law define “Mattress”?

It’s defined as any sleep surface covered with ticking or fabric that contains resilient material, such as steel innersprings, foam, fiber, or other filling or upholstery materials, used alone or in combination, regardless of size or shape, except for those products listed under the Excluded Products List. This includes new, used and renovated products.

### How does the law define “Box Spring” or foundation?

It’s defined as a ticking or fabric-covered structure used to support a Mattress or sleep surface, and may be comprised of a frame, foam, springs or other structure, or other materials, used alone or in combination, regardless of whether the product is stationary or adjustable. This includes new, used and renovated products.

### What items are on the Excluded Products List?

The fee does not apply to mattress pads, mattress toppers, sleeping bags, pillows, car beds, juvenile products including a crib mattress, carriage, basket, dressing table, stroller, playpen, infant carrier, lounge pad, crib bumper or pad, water beds or camping style air mattresses, fold-out sofa beds or futons.

### What happens when a customer returns a mattress or box spring?

The renovator will refund the fee to the consumer when processing the customer return. Since a renovator remits fees only on its net sales of mattresses and box springs during a reporting month, all customer refunds during the month will be reflected in the net sales calculation.

### Will the fee change?

After the plan’s implementation, the fee may change if MRC finds that the collected fees are too high or too low to sustain the recycling program. Any change in the fee is subject to state approval and MRC would provide 90-days’ notice to implement the new fee.

### Where can I find MRC’s fee remittance policy?

Visit the resources section of [www.mrcreporting.org](http://www.mrcreporting.org) to read the entire fee remittance policy and access other resources.

### How was the fee established?

MRC set the fee, with approval from the state. The fee provides for the cost of operating and administering the program. MRC does not earn any profits from the program.

### Our store’s take-back program includes a delivery fee. Can we continue to charge this?

In California, a mattress seller that delivers a mattress or box spring to a consumer must also pick up the consumer’s discarded mattress or box spring at the consumer’s request at no charge. In this case, however, the seller is not prohibited from charging a mattress delivery or set-up fee.

### Are mattress sellers required to recycle used mattresses or box springs that they collect from consumers when they deliver the new products?

No. While sellers are required to take back unwanted mattresses, they are not required to recycle them.

### Even More FAQs and information are available in the “Resources” area of [www.MRCreporting.org](http://www.MRCreporting.org).

### Preparing for Registration on [MRCreporting.org](http://MRCreporting.org)

To have a smooth and easy experience, you’ll want to do the following before you begin:

- **Review the Definitions page** (under the “Resources” tab in the main menu) for a description of producer, renovator, and retailer, as well as mattress and box spring.
- **Determine if you are registering and reporting on behalf of all locations or only one (or some) specific location(s).** If you are not registering and reporting on behalf of all locations in one or more program states, each location will need to register and report individually.
- **Renovators are required to provide their brand or Uniform Registry Number (URN) information.** Names of renovators and their brands/URNs are shared with CalRecycle and made publically available in separate lists.

*A printable guidelines document and step-by-step video are available in the “Resources” area of [MRCreporting.org](http://MRCreporting.org) to help you expect what information is needed to complete each stage of the process.*