

For Immediate Release

February 3, 2025

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## ASSEMBLY MAJORITY LEADER RECOGNIZED FOR LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP BY THE NATIONAL STEWARDSHIP ACTION COUNCIL

On Tuesday, January 21, 2025, the [National Stewardship Action Council \(NSAC\)](#) presented [Assembly Majority Leader Cecilia Aguiar-Curry](#) with a Legislative Leadership Award for improving carpet recycling in California through the authoring and passage of [AB 863](#) in 2024.

“Majority Leader Aguiar-Curry has been a Champion for keeping jobs in California and ensuring consumer funded programs are working as intended” said Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director of NSAC. “Carpet recycling is not a sexy issue, but she knew we needed to fix this program and she and her team worked hard to make the program reforms the law, and why we provided her with the Legislative Leadership Award.”



*Pictured: Heidi Sanborn, NSAC; Assembly Majority Leader Cecilia Aguiar-Curry; Jordan Wells, NSAC*

The Carpet program is working better in California than in any other state, however, improvements were needed to prevent job loss and to maximize recycling. After the [closure of the Aquafil carpet recycling plant in Woodland, CA](#), Leader Aguiar-Curry took action:

“We will fix this program by expanding auditing and increasing fines for bad performance. We owe it to our state's consumers to make sure the fees they pay are used effectively, create jobs for California workers, and invest in California’s carpet recycling industry” said Cecilia Aguiar-Curry in [a press release](#).

Many people are unaware that nearly one-third of all postconsumer plastic beverage containers in North America are being downcycled to make carpet. California law currently requires plastic beverage containers subject to the California Refund Value (CRV) to reach a postconsumer plastic recycled content standard of 50% by January 1, 2030 yet a lot of clean PET bottles are downcycled into carpet.

Key provisions in AB 863 include:

- Closed loop 5% carpet to carpet recycling by 2028
- Required back stamping of face fiber type on all carpet and posting of carpet product components on a website for recyclers
- Ensuring carpet collectors are provided funding to increase carpet collected for recycling
- Addition of four non-voting California stakeholders to the CARE Board to ensure additional oversight and transparency and to ensure decisions are made regarding the CA program with the input of impacted stakeholders within the state.

About NSAC – [www.nsaction.us](http://www.nsaction.us)

National Stewardship Action Council (NSAC) is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization that advocates and provides consulting services to advance a responsible, circular economy, anywhere in the U.S., and at any level of government. NSAC has been instrumental in the passage of several first-in-the-nation laws such as the EPR for medicines and needles and was a key negotiator of the packaging law in California, SB 54 passed in 2022. In 2010, the California Legislature passed the world’s first and only carpet stewardship law (AB 2398 – Perez) which NSAC has passed clean-up legislation to ensure the program works as intended.

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