



# SUPPORT

## A. 4333/S. 4746 (Kelles/Hoylman-Sigal)

*An Act to amend the general business law, in relation to requiring fashion sellers to be accountable to environmental and social standards; and to amend the state finance law, in relation to establishing a fashion remediation fund.*

The New York League of Conservation Voters supports A. 4333/S.4746 (Kelles/Hoylman-Sigal), which would require fashion retail sellers and manufacturers to disclose environmental and social due diligence policies, and establish a community benefit fund for the purpose of implementing one or more environmental benefit projects that directly and verifiably benefit environmental justice communities.

The ever-increasing demand for so-called “fast fashion” has set a trend of environmentally and socially detrimental practices within the multi-trillion dollar apparel industry. This industry is responsible for an extensive amount of global greenhouse gas emissions and operates with little regulation or accountability for harmful practices including the use of harmful industrial chemicals and microplastics. In addition to harmful practices, the apparel industry also generates toxic industrial chemical waste and manufactures mostly plastic-based textiles that build up in the environment. The apparel industry alone produced more than 17 million tons of textile waste in 2018, with less than 15% of that waste being recycled.<sup>1</sup> With this act, fashion’s environmental and social footprint can be managed and reformed. New York is one of the fashion capitals of the world and should play a leading role in making fashion more sustainable.

A. 4333/S.4746 would require fashion retail sellers and manufacturers to disclose their environmental and social analysis policies, and establish a fashion remediation fund. For these reasons, the New York League of Conservation Voters strongly urges passage of A. 4333/S.4746.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/facts-and-figures-about-materials-waste-and-recycling/textiles-material-specific-data>

