

The RealReal

June 27, 2022

The Honorable Paul Tonko
Chairman, Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Environment and
Climate Change
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David B. McKinley
Ranking Member, Energy and
Commerce Subcommittee on
Environment and Climate Change
2322 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Chairman, Committee on Energy and
Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy
and Commerce
2322 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Tonko, Ranking Member McKinley, Chairman Pallone, Ranking Member McMorris Rodgers, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of The RealReal, I would like to thank the House Energy and Commerce Committee for holding an important hearing on “No Time to Waste: Solutions for America’s Broken Recycling System” and for considering, among other pieces of legislation, H.R. 8059, the *Recycling and Composting Accountability Act* (RCAA). We are encouraged by the Committee’s bipartisan commitment to receiving input from a wide range of stakeholders. The RealReal is grateful to the Committee for the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing conversation of how to improve recycling and was proud to work in a bipartisan manner with the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee to ensure that textiles were incorporated into the RCAA.

We believe the RCAA serves as an excellent starting point for a larger conversation about recycling and sustainability, including the role that textiles and the fashion industry can play in achieving a truly circular economy. In a letter to the Senate EPW Committee prior to its “Circular Economy as a Concept for Creating a More Sustainable Future” hearing, The RealReal highlighted that the fashion industry is one of the top polluting industries in the world, emitting more carbon than the aviation and maritime shipping industries combined. The RealReal continues to believe that consumer participation in the circular

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economy is vital to reducing these emissions. The textiles and fashion industry can help the United States meet the objectives laid out under the Paris Climate Accord, and each individual fashion item kept in circulation has a positive impact. Through data from The RealReal's Sustainability Calculator, we know apparel kept in circulation through the company's marketplace alone has saved nearly 53,000 metric tons of carbon and approximately 2.8 billion liters of water.

We would like to again thank the Committee for taking this issue seriously and considering the RCAA with The RealReal's suggested inclusion of an Environmental Protection Agency study on the diversion of recyclable materials from a circular market. We look forward to continuing to support the bill's movement through Congress and working with the Committee throughout the process.

Thank you for your continued leadership in addressing the fashion industry, recycling, sustainability, and the circular economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rati Sahi Levesque', with a stylized, cursive script.

Rati Sahi Levesque
Co-CEO
The RealReal