

August 9, 2013

The Honorable Kevin de Leon
California Senate
State Capitol – Room 5105
Sacramento, California 95814-4900

Dear Senator de Leon:

On behalf of the(name of firm)....., I respectfully urge you to oppose AB 127, a bill whose eventual intent is to ban the use of flame retardants in foam insulation.

Recently there have been movements in the national code arena to ban flame retardants in foam plastics. The EIFS industry has been using foam plastics as a component of the systems since the early 1970s with no adverse affects to humans. This has been proven in both European and Canadian studies. However, since there is a movement by certain groups to try and eliminate flame retardants from foam plastic, the foam plastic industry has been proactive in trying to find alternatives. Such alternatives are now available and are being phased into the production of foam plastic materials.

EIFS have been successfully fire-tested in no less than 4 separate internationally-recognized testing protocols providing incredible safety to firefighters and home and building owners alike. Current flame retardants have aided in these results. The newer ones will, too.

According to the definition of the International Building Code and ASTM International, an Exterior Insulation and Finish System (EIFS) is a non-load bearing, exterior wall cladding that consists of: an insulation board attached either adhesively or mechanically, or both, to the supporting board; an integrally reinforced base coat, and; a textured protective finish coat. The EIFS Industry Members Association is a trade association that represents over 200 of the leading manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, contractors and designers of Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems whose members furnish and apply approximately \$2 billion of EIFS annually, much of it in California.

(name of firm) respectfully requests that AB 127 be placed into abeyance until such time as the newer flame retardants are commercialized.

Sincerely yours,