The California Fashion Association (CFA) is focused on building a knowledge base to identify and meet the needs of the various constituents of the industry.

September 13, 2021

# As Seen In: Apparel News

## "Garment Worker Protection Act Advances — Next Stop, Newsom's Desk"

(Excerpt – September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021)

The bill saw 43 yes votes and is on its way to potential passage pending Gov. Gavin Newsom's final say.

SB 62, or the Garment Worker Protection Act, passed the California State Assembly late Wednesday night. The bill addresses wage theft in the industry by seeking to eliminate piece-rate pay and establish joint liability among stakeholders.

Seeing a clear victory with 43 yes votes to 12 no votes, the bill is now headed to California Gov. Gavin Newsom's desk for a final say on whether it passes.

A key date, Oct. 10 is the last day for Newsom to sign or veto bills passed by the legislature on or before Sept. 10 per the California legislative calendar.

#### Read Full Article Here

### CFA has written in opposition:

On behalf of the hard-working and law-abiding apparel manufacturers in California, we certainly agree that any employee, in any capacity, should be paid for their work in a safe environment and according to the California laws in effect. The industry's effect on the California economy cannot be denied and should not be categorized by the few 'bad apples' that make media news.

- \*The infractions for illegal activities by employers are already covered by existing California law.
- \*Nothing in this proposed legislation will prevent further injustices by those already breaking existing law.
- \*The majority of the aggrieved workers are undocumented and ineligible for legal employment under existing law AB633. We, therefore, support the creation of a 'work permit' statute, currently in existence for the field employees of the inland empire.

CFA was supported in these efforts by the Los Angeles Chamber of

Commerce, California Chamber of Commerce, California Retailers Association (CRA), and the American Association of Footwear and Apparel (AAFA).

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