

OPPOSE LD 1423: PROTECT MAINE'S EPR FOR PACKAGING LAW

Stop corporate polluters from weakening Maine's product stewardship program and reducing support for recycling in Maine communities

Maine's Community Recycling Programs Need Help

- Municipal recycling programs are essential for recovering valuable natural resources from everyday household waste.
- Producers currently shift the responsibility for their waste onto consumers, with management of packaging materials costing Maine taxpayers millions of dollars annually.
- Currently, towns have very little control over materials in the waste stream and must invest heavily in infrastructure to do the right thing with them.
- Recycling prices can be volatile, making it difficult for Maine towns to budget and maintain programs for their residents.
- Maine was the first state in the country to pass this law, which created more transparency and accountability regarding packaging being managed in Maine.

Producers Want to Weaken the Law with Exemptions and Delays



- LD 1423 adds exemptions for a laundry list of products, keeping municipalities on the hook for paying to manage this waste.
- The proposal rewrites key definitions, opening the door for loopholes and reducing transparency.
- Eleventh-hour rewrites to this legislation would undermine seven years of stakeholder engagement and collaboration and cause major delays to implementation that municipalities cannot afford.

We Need to Protect Maine's Current EPR Law and Stop These Proposed Rollbacks

Rejecting this proposed legislation would:

- Enable implementation of the EPR law and ensure municipalities get reimbursements by October 2027, as promised;
- Allow municipalities to receive reimbursements for more of the packaging they recycle, including packaging for federally-regulated products like cosmetics, medications and medical equipment, hazardous and flammable products, and more; and
- Provide needed stability for recycling in Maine and ensure recycling costs are consistently reimbursed for municipalities over the long term.



Hands Off Maine's EPR Law!

For more information, please contact

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Environmental Priorities Coalition

Maine's **Environmental Priorities Coalition** is an inclusive statewide alliance of 39 conservation, climate action, and public health organizations. Each year we collectively identify a slate of policy priorities to act on the climate crisis, further environmental justice, protect land, water, and wildlife, and cultivate healthy Maine communities.

