



Natural Resources Council of Maine

3 Wade Street • Augusta, Maine 04330 • (207) 622-3101 • Fax: (207) 622-4343 • www.nrcm.org

Senator Carson, Representative Tucker, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources, the Natural Resources Council of Maine presents to you resolutions passed in 2019 and 2020 by Maine's municipal governments in support for the adoption of an Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging law.

Please find enclosed the resolutions listed in the table below. These resolutions represent more than 211,000 Maine people.

TOWN	POPULATION	LEGISLATORS
BETHEL	2,607	Rep. Head, Sen. Keim
BLUE HILL	2,686	Rep. Peabworth, Sen. Luchini
BRUNSWICK	20,278	Rep. Daughtry, Rep. Tucker, Rep. McCreight, Sen. Carson
CAMDEN	4,850	Rep. Doudera, Sen. Miramant
ELLSWORTH	7,741	Rep. Grohoski, Sen. Luchini
HARPSWELL	4,740	Rep. McCreight, Sen. Carson
KENNEBUNKPORT	3,474	Rep. Babbidge, Rep. Denk, Sen. Deschambault
KINGFIELD	997	Rep. Skolfield, Sen. Black
LEWISTON	36,592	Rep. Handy, Rep. Craven, Rep. Cloutier, Rep. Brooks, Sen. Libby
LIMERICK	2,892	Rep. Sampson, Rep. Blier, Sen. Woodsome
LUBEC	1,359	Rep. Tuell, Sen. Moore
MANCHESTER	2,580	Rep. Warren, Sen. Bellows
POLAND	5,376	Rep. Bradstreet Arata, Rep. Fay, Sen. Claxton
PORTLAND*	66,194	Rep. Brennan, Rep. Farmsworth, Rep. Moonen, Rep. Sylvester, Rep. Talbot Ross, Rep. Jorgensen, Rep. Collings, Rep. Crockett, Sen. Ben Chipman, Sen. Sanborn
SCARBOROUGH	18,919	Rep. Caiazzo, Rep. Babine, Rep. Carney, Sen. Millett, Sen. Sanborn
SOUTH PORTLAND	25,002	Rep. Reckitt, Rep. Kessler, Rep. Morales, Sen. Millett
TREMONT	1,563	Rep. McDonald, Sen. Luchini
TRENTON	1,481	Rep. Grohoski, Sen. Luchini
WHITEFIELD	2,268	Rep. Maxmin, Sen. Dow

**Portland City Council's Legislative Committee has directed City staffers to testify in support of LD 2104 in lieu of adopting a municipal resolution.*

Resolution to support Municipal Recycling Programs

Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

Whereas, product packaging, which includes plastic, metal, glass, and cardboard, constitutes approximately 30-40% of the materials managed by weight in Maine's municipal waste management programs; and

Whereas, Maine taxpayers currently unfairly bear 100% of the cost and pay an estimated \$16 million to \$17 million each year to finance the management of this material through fragmented and increasingly expensive disposal or recycling options; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have little incentive to minimize wasteful packaging or increase access to recycling; and there is no organized coordination between the producers of packaging and municipalities that are responsible for disposing of or recycling the packaging materials; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have taken some or all responsibility for the management of post-consumer packaging in other parts of the world, including all European Union member states and five provinces in Canada, and, as a result, have greatly increased recycling rates, expanded infrastructure investment, created jobs, and reduced taxpayer costs;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,


We, The Select Board of the Town of Bethel, Maine, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine;

More sustainable: An EPR law for packaging is an insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced stop or restrict their programs; and

More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed—and the packaging manufacturers that produce less- wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

01/06/2020



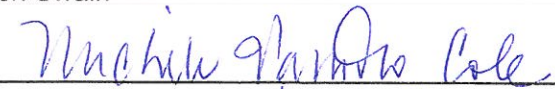
Peter Southam



Lloyd Sweetser



Lori Swain



Michele Varuolo Cole



Andrew Whitney

Town of Blue Hill, Maine

SELECTMEN/ASSESSORS

JAMES DOW
VAUGHN LEACH
ELLEN BEST

FIRST SETTLED 1762

INCORPORATED JAN. 30, 1789

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

SHAWNA AMBROSE

CEO/ PLUMBING INSPECTOR

JUDY JENKINS

ROAD COMMISSIONER

WILLIAM COUSINS

TREASURER

REBECCA J. WILBER

TAX COLLECTOR/ TOWN CLERK

ETTA PERKINS

CLERK/911 OFFICER

LYNDSEY DOW

FIRE CHIEF

MATTHEW DENNISON

18 Union Street
Blue Hill, Maine 04614
TELEPHONE 207-374-2281 FAX 207-374-9935

We, Maine's municipalities, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine;

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Sincerely,



Vaughn Leach, Select Board Chair



Ellen Best



James Dow

Town of Brunswick, Maine



TOWN COUNCIL

Resolution Supporting Recycling Reform for Maine

Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

Whereas, product packaging, which includes plastic, metal, glass, and cardboard, constitutes approximately 30-40% of the materials managed by weight in Maine's municipal waste management programs; and

Whereas, Maine taxpayers currently unfairly bear 100% of the cost and pay an estimated \$16 million to \$17 million each year to finance the management of this material through fragmented and increasingly expensive disposal or recycling options; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have little incentive to minimize wasteful packaging or increase access to recycling; and there is no organized coordination between the producers of packaging and municipalities that are responsible for disposing of or recycling the packaging materials; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have taken some or all responsibility for the management of post-consumer packaging in other parts of the world, including all European Union member states and five provinces in Canada, and, as a result, have greatly increased recycling rates, expanded infrastructure investment, created jobs, and reduced taxpayer costs;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Town Council of Brunswick, Maine, supports an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431).

We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

- More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine;
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resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced stop or restrict their programs; and

- More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed—and the packaging manufacturers that produce less- wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

Voted by the Town Council of Brunswick, Maine this 21st day of October, 2019

/s/ John M. Perreault

John M. Perreault, Chair – Town Council



RECYCLING REFORM FOR MAINE

More Effective • More Sustainable • More Equitable

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Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

We, Maine's municipalities, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:


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Camden Select Board

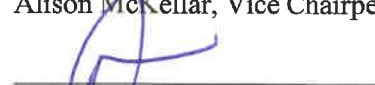
12/17/2019

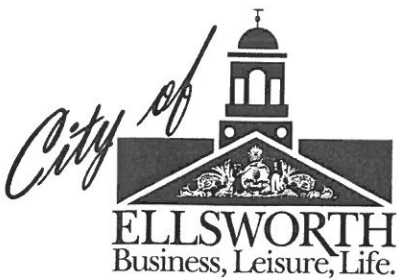

Robert Falciani, Chairperson


Marc Ratner, Board Member


Taylor Benzie, Board Member


Alison McKellar, Vice Chairperson


Jenna Lookner, Board Member



City Council

1 City Hall Plaza ▪ Ellsworth, ME 04605-1942
Phone (207) 667-2563 ▪ Fax (207) 669-6618
www.ellsworthmaine.gov

City of Ellsworth - Recycling Reform Proclamation

Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

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Now, Therefore Be It Resolved:

The City of Ellsworth, a municipality of Maine, does hereby support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

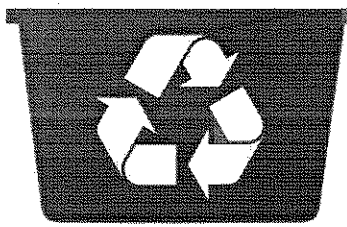
More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine;

More sustainable: An EPR law for packaging is an insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced to stop or restrict their programs; and

More equitable: Maine's cities, towns and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they did not create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed – and the packaging manufacturers that produce less-wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

Dale Hamilton, City Council Chair/Mayor

Date:



RECYCLING REFORM FOR MAINE

More Effective • More Sustainable • More Equitable

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Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

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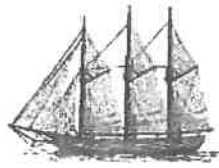
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A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John' or similar.

Harpwell Board of Selectmen December 19, 2019



TOWN OF KENNEBUNKPORT, MAINE

~ INCORPORATED 1653 ~

MAINE'S FINEST RESORT

Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

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Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

We, the Town of Kennebunkport, Maine, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine;

More sustainable: An EPR law for packaging is an insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity

Adoption of a resolution in support of developing an "Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging" law

prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced stop or restrict their programs; and

More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed—and the packaging manufacturers that produce less wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

Resolved:

Selectmen: Allen G. Pappas

Selectmen: Shula Matthews-Bull

Selectmen: John A. Briggs

Selectmen: _____

Selectmen: _____

Date Resolved: 9-26-2019

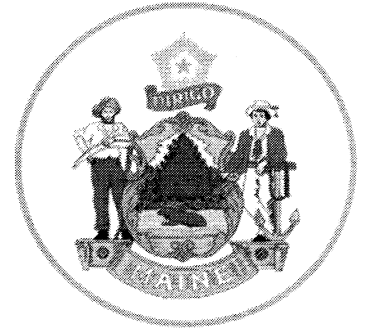


Town of Kingfield

38 School Street

Kingfield, ME 04947

(207) 265-4637 (207) 265-4626 Fax



Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

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Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

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More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed—and the packaging manufacturers that produce less wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

Given under our hands the 5th day of August, A.D. 2019



Wade Browne

John Dill



Morgan Dunham

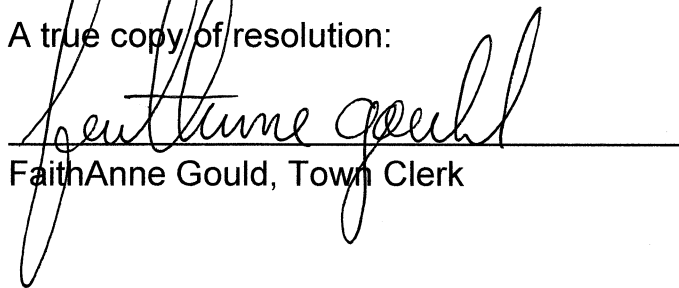


Walter Kilbreth

Raymond Meldrum

Board of Selectmen, Town of Kingfield

A true copy of resolution:



FaithAnne Gould, Town Clerk



CITY OF LEWISTON, MAINE

NOVEMBER 19, 2019

COUNCIL RESOLVE

Resolve, Calling Upon the Maine Legislature to Support an Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging Law.

Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and, in some cases, are eliminating recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

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Whereas, producers of product packaging have taken some or all of the responsibility for managing post-consumer packaging in other parts of the world, including all European Union member states and five provinces in Canada, and, as a result, have greatly increased recycling rates, expanded infrastructure investment, created jobs, and reduced taxpayer costs;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved,

The City Council of the City of Lewiston supports an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of LD 1431, A Resolve To Support Municipal Recycling Programs. We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

More effective. Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine; and

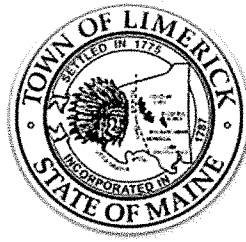
More sustainable. An EPR law for packaging is an insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced to stop or restrict their programs; and

More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed -- and the packaging manufacturers that produce less-wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

Be It Further Resolved, that

The City Clerk shall provide copies of this Resolve to the Members of the Legislature's Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and the Lewiston Legislative Delegation.

Roland C. LePage
Joanne L. Andrews
Gilbert S. Harris
Wendy M. Thorne
Dottie Richard
BOS@LimerickME.org



Board of Selectmen
Phone: 207-793-2166 #6
Fax: 207-793-8510

Town Of Limerick
55 Washington Street
Limerick, ME. 04048

Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

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We, Town of Limerick Municipality, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

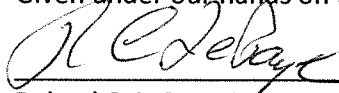
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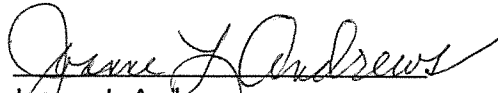
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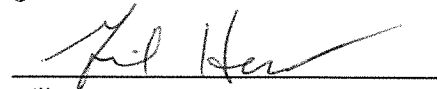
More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed—and the packaging manufacturers that produce less-wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

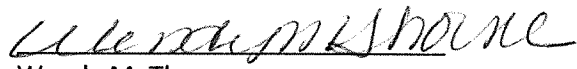
RLR

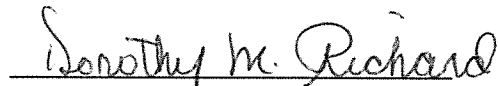
Given under our hands on this 9th day of September, 2019


Roland C. LePage Jr.

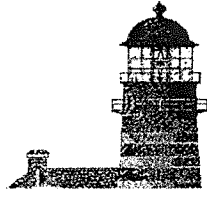

Joanne L. Andrews


Gilbert S. Harris


Wendy M. Thorne


Dorothy M. Richard

Board of Selectmen, Town of Limerick



Town of Lubec

40 School Street
Lubec, ME 04652
(207) 733-2341

Resolution for the Town of Lubec

Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

Whereas, **product** packaging, which includes plastic, metal, glass, and cardboard, constitutes approximately 30-40% of the materials managed by weight in Maine's municipal waste management programs; and

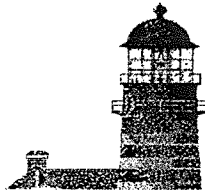
Whereas, Maine taxpayers currently unfairly bear 100% of the cost and pay an estimated \$16 million to \$17 million each year to finance the management of this material through fragmented and increasingly expensive disposal or recycling options; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have little incentive to minimize wasteful packaging or increase access to recycling; and there is no organized coordination between the producers of packaging and municipalities that are responsible for disposing of or recycling the packaging materials; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have taken some or all responsibility for the management of post-consumer packaging in other parts of the world, including all European Union member states and five provinces in Canada, and, as a result, have greatly increased recycling rates, expanded infrastructure investment, created jobs, and reduced taxpayer costs;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

We, the select board of the Town of Lubec, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:



Town of Lubec

40 School Street
Lubec, ME 04652
(207) 733-2341

More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine;

More sustainable: An EPR law for packaging is an insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced stop or restrict their programs; and

More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed—and the packaging manufacturers that produce less-wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

This Resolve is signed and supported by the Lubec Board of Selectmen

Carol Dennison – Chairman

Daniel Wagner -Vice Chairman

Rachel Rubeor- Selectman

Jason Evasius- Selectman

Sonja Bailey- Selectman

**Resolution of the Select Board of the Town of Manchester, Maine
Regarding Recycling Reform for Maine**

Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

Whereas, product packaging, which includes plastic, metal, glass, and cardboard, constitutes approximately 30-40% of the materials managed by weight in Maine's municipal waste management programs; and

Whereas, Maine taxpayers currently unfairly bear 100% of the cost and pay an estimated \$16 million to \$17 million each year to finance the management of this material through fragments and increasingly expensive disposal or recycling options; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have little incentive to minimize wasteful packaging or increase access to recycling; and there is no organized coordination between the producers of packaging and municipalities that are responsible for disposing of or recycling the package materials; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have taken some or all responsibility for the management of post-consumer packaging in other parts of the world, including all European Union member states and five provinces in Canada, and, as a result, have greatly increased recycling rates, expanded infrastructure investment, created jobs, and reduced taxpayer costs;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

We, Maine's municipalities, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

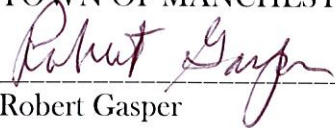
More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine;

More sustainable: An EPR law for packaging is an insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced to stop or restrict their programs; and

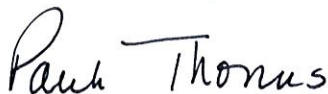
More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed - and the packaging manufacturers that produce less-wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

SELECT BOARD

TOWN OF MANCHESTER, MAINE



Robert Gasper

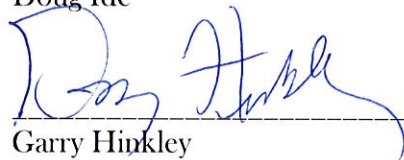


Paula Thomas



Dawn Kliphan

Doug Ide



Garry Hinkley



Town of Poland

1231 Maine Street
Poland, ME 04274
(207) 998-4601



Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

Whereas, product packaging, which includes plastic, metal, glass, and cardboard, constitutes approximately 30-40% of the materials managed by weight in Maine's municipal waste management programs; and

Whereas, Maine taxpayers currently unfairly bear 100% of the cost and pay an estimated \$16 million to \$17 million each year to finance the management of this material through fragmented and increasingly expensive disposal or recycling options; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have little incentive to minimize wasteful packaging or increase access to recycling; and there is no organized coordination between the producers of packaging and municipalities that are responsible for disposing of or recycling the packaging materials; and

Whereas, producers of product packaging have taken some or all responsibility for the management of post-consumer packaging in other parts of the world, including all European Union member states and five provinces in Canada, and, as a result, have greatly increased recycling rates, expanded infrastructure investment, created jobs, and reduced taxpayer costs;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved,

We, Maine's municipalities, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine;

More sustainable: An EPR law for packaging is an insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced stop or restrict their programs; and


More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed—and the packaging manufacturers that produce less-wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.


Signed this 17th day of September, 2019

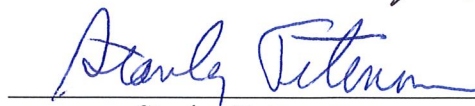
Board of Selectpersons


Mary-Beth Taylor, Chairperson


Surette Moulton, Vice-Chairperson


Joseph Cimino


Stephen Robinson


Stanley Tetenman



Town of Scarborough, Maine

259 US ROUTE ONE, PO BOX 360
SCARBOROUGH, MAINE • 04070-0360

RESOLUTION 19-001 TO SUPPORT MUNICIPAL RECYCLING PROGRAMS [LD1431]

WHEREAS, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and,

WHEREAS product packaging, which includes plastic, metal, glass, and cardboard, constitutes approximately 30-40% of the materials managed by weight in Maine's municipal waste management programs; and,

WHEREAS Maine taxpayers currently unfairly bear 100% of the cost and pay an estimated \$16 million to \$17 million each year to finance the management of this material through fragmented and increasingly expensive disposal or recycling options; and,

WHEREAS producers of product packaging have little incentive to minimize wasteful packaging or increase access to recycling; and there is no organized coordination between the producers of packaging and municipalities that are responsible for disposing of or recycling the packaging materials; and,

WHEREAS producers of product packaging have taken some or all responsibility for the management of post-consumer packaging in other parts of the world, including all European Union member states and five provinces in Canada, and, as a result, have greatly increased recycling rates, expanded infrastructure investment, created jobs, and reduced taxpayer costs.

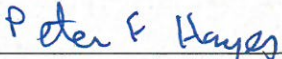
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, We, the Town of Scarborough, Maine, supports an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

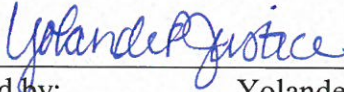
More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine; and,

More sustainable: An EPR law for packaging is an insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced stop or restrict their programs; and,

More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed and the packaging manufacturers that produce less wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

Signed and dated this 6th day of November, 2019, on behalf of the Scarborough Town Council and the Town Manager of Scarborough, Maine.


Signed by: Peter F. Hayes
Council Chair


Attested by: Yolande P. Justice
Town Clerk



CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND

KATHERINE W. LEWIS
Mayor

SCOTT T. MORELLI
City Manager

EMILY F. SCULLY
City Clerk

SALLY J. DAGGETT
Jensen Baird Gardner & Henry

District One
CLAUDE V.Z. MORGAN

District Two
KATHERINE W. LEWIS

District Three
MISHA C. PRIDE

District Four
APRIL L. CARICCHIO

District Five
DEQA DHALAC

At Large
KATELYN S. BRUZGO

At Large
SUSAN J. HENDERSON

IN CITY COUNCIL RESOLVE #9-19/20

WHEREAS, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

WHEREAS, product packaging, which includes plastic, metal, glass, and cardboard, constitutes approximately 30-40% of the materials managed by weight in Maine's municipal waste management programs; and

WHEREAS, Maine taxpayers currently unfairly bear 100% of the cost and pay an estimated \$16 to \$17 million each year to finance the management of this material through fragmented and increasingly expensive disposal or recycling options; and

WHEREAS, producers of product packaging have little incentive to minimize wasteful packaging or increase access to recycling; and there is no organized coordination between the producers of packaging and municipalities that are responsible for disposing of or recycling the packaging materials; and

WHEREAS, producers of product packaging have taken some or all responsibility for the management of post-consumer packaging in other parts of the world, including all European Union member states and five provinces, and as a result, have greatly increased recycling rates, expanded infrastructure investment, created jobs, and reduced taxpayer costs; and

WHEREAS, changes in the global recycling markets affected the local waste stream and directly impacted South Portland through more stringent restrictions on clean recycling loads and subsequent contamination fees; and

WHEREAS, South Portland has demonstrated leadership in waste reduction programs, policies, and practices through the Polystyrene Ban and Plastic Bag Fee, the state's first citywide food waste recycling program, and a cross-jurisdictional recycling internship program; and

WHEREAS, South Portland remains committed to providing waste reduction and recycling services combined with robust, citywide outreach and education campaigns to foster a better understanding in the community of how to recycle properly; and

WHEREAS, South Portland has a goal to increase the City's recycling rate to 40% by 2020 through purposeful purchasing, reuse, recycling, and composting and will outline actions to minimize waste by changing how our community consumes and disposes goods and materials in the *One Climate Future* plan;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, We, the City of South Portland, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine;

More sustainable: An EPR law for packaging is an insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced to stop or restrict their programs; and

More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed- and the packaging manufacturers that produce less-wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

Resolution

Of the Tremont Board of Selectmen

Whereas, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating, recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and

Whereas, product packaging, which includes plastic, metal, glass, and cardboard, constitutes approximately 30-40% of the materials managed by weight in Maine's municipal waste management programs; and

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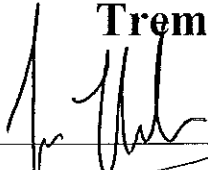
Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, We, Maine's municipalities, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:


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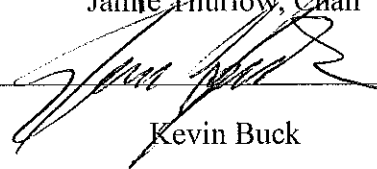
More sustainable: An EPR law for packaging is an insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced stop or restrict their programs; and

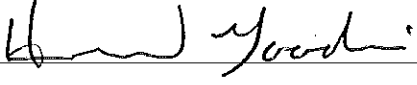
More equitable: Maine's cities, towns, and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed—and the packaging manufacturers that produce less wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

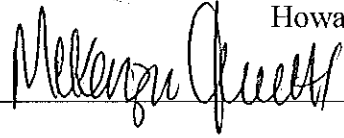
Tremont Board of Selectmen



Jamie Thurlow, Chair

Michael Mansolilli, Vice-Chair

Kevin Buck

Howard Goodwin

McKenzie Jewett



TOWN OF TRENTON

February 12, 2020

Sarah K. Nichols

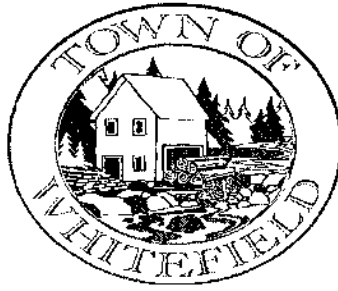
Sustainable Maine Director

3 Wade Street, Augusta, Maine 04330

Whereas the Town of Trenton Maine recognizes the need for responsible management of our municipal solid waste, and the town recognizes the relationship of solid waste production to consumer activity and producer packaging choice, as well as the effect of Solid Waste Management on long and short-term fiscal, environmental, and health outcomes for the citizens of Trenton and other Maine municipalities, the Select Board has voted in support of the State's continuing exploration of the concept of Expanded Producer Responsibility.

Very truly yours,

R. Frederick Ehrlenbach
Chair, Board of Selectmen



**RESOLUTION 19-001
TO SUPPORT MUNICIPAL RECYCLING PROGRAMS (LD1431)**

WHEREAS, Maine's communities are struggling to maintain, expand, and in some cases are eliminating recycling programs due to rising costs and difficult-to-manage materials; and,

WHEREAS product packaging, which includes plastic, metal, glass, and cardboard, constitutes approximately 30-40% of the materials managed by weight in Maine's municipal waste management programs; and,

WHEREAS Maine taxpayers currently unfairly bear 100% of the cost and pay an estimated \$16 million to \$17 million each year to finance the management of this material through fragmented and increasingly expensive disposal or recycling options; and,

WHEREAS producers of product packaging have little incentive to minimize wasteful packaging or increase access to recycling; and there is no organized coordination between the producers of packaging and municipalities that are responsible for disposing of or recycling the packaging materials; and,

WHEREAS producers of product packaging have taken some or all responsibility for the management of post-consumer packaging in other parts of the world, including all European Union member states and five provinces in Canada, and, as a result, have greatly increased recycling rates, expanded infrastructure investment, created jobs, and reduced taxpayer costs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, We, the Town of Whitefield, Maine, support an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging law as endorsed by the Legislature in 2019 through the passage of the Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (LD 1431). We believe that this policy will work to make recycling in Maine:

More effective: Producers of packaging materials would have a direct economic incentive to produce less-wasteful packaging that can easily and profitably be managed by municipal recycling programs. Having shared responsibility between those who create the waste and those who manage the waste would foster recycling system improvements and enable greater participation in recycling across Maine; and,

More sustainable: An EPR law for packaging is an insurance policy for Maine municipalities when global recycling markets are unfavorable. The current approach to recycling is not resilient to fluctuations in the global recycling market. When commodity prices fall unexpectedly, towns and cities may be forced to stop or restrict their programs; and,

More equitable: Maine's cities, towns and taxpayers are currently footing the bill for a problem they didn't create. With recycling reform, taxpayers will no longer pay for the cost of recycling since the net costs of recycling would be reimbursed and the packaging manufacturers that produce less wasteful, more recyclable packaging would pay less than those who do not. This is a much more equitable way to distribute costs.

Signed and dated 19th day of November 2019 by the Select Board of Whitefield, Maine.


Lester Sheaffer, Chair



William McKeen, Vice Chair

Charlene Donahue


Lise Hanners


Keith Sanborn

TRUE AND ATTESTED


TOWN CLERK