

November 19, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Chair
U.S. House Committee on Energy and
Commerce

The Honorable Tom Carper
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment
and Public Works

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
U.S. House Committee on Energy and
Commerce

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment
and Public Works

Subject: Advance the Recycling Infrastructure Accessibility Act (S. 1189/H.R. 6159) and the Recycling and Composting Accountability Act (S. 1194/H.R. 4040)

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chair McMorris Rodgers, Ranking Member Pallone, Chairman Carper, and Ranking Member Capito:

As leading industries, trade associations and recycling advocates, we are calling for the timely passage of two bipartisan bills that will significantly improve recycling systems in the United States. The Recycling Infrastructure Accessibility Act (RIAA), introduced by Ranking Member Capito, and the Recycling and Composting Accountability Act (RCAA), introduced by Chairman Carper, will increase access to recycling services and improve tracking of recycled material that is essential to America's supply chain security, sustainable economy, and manufacturing base.

As you are aware, both the RIAA and RCAA enjoy bipartisan support and have advanced out of the Senate by unanimous consent in both the 117th and 118th Congresses. They also have the endorsement of a broad coalition of stakeholders including manufacturers, consumer brands, trade associations, and environmental organizations. Given the widespread support for this legislation, we are calling on congressional leadership to ensure these bills are enacted into law before the end of the year.

Every year, millions of pounds, and billions of dollars-worth, of valuable recyclable materials are landfilled. This includes materials designated as critical by the Department of Defense. Beyond recycling's inherent environmental advantages, manufacturers rely on recycled material to meet demand across sectors. More recycling is good both for the planet and for the broader manufacturing economy. According to The Recycling Partnership's [2024 State of Residential Recycling Report](#), a mere 21% of recyclables are captured at the household level, among the lowest level of any advanced economy.

We can and must do more to realize the economic, environmental and national security benefits of recycling. The RIAA will help ensure that no community is left out of the recycling economy by establishing a pilot program designed to increase access to recycling services in rural and underserved areas. Our recycling economy can only succeed when we are all able to participate in a system that diverts materials from landfills and returns them to our economy.

The RCAA will establish reporting guidelines for recycling and composting programs to track performance over time and incentivize improvements. With better reporting and data collection, we can make informed recycling investments that deliver maximum value to local communities.

Together, these bipartisan bills would advance the nation's recycling capabilities, support a robust and circular economy, and help secure critical domestic supply chains. We, the undersigned organizations, support the passage of both the RCAA and the RIAA before the end of the year and urge you to take prompt action toward their enactment.

Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.
ALDI Inc.
Alpek Polyester
Aluminum Association
American Beverage
American Chemistry Council
American Cleaning Institute
AMERIPEN
Arconic Corporation
Association of Plastic Recyclers
BASF Corporation
Ball Corporation
Biodegradable Products Institute
Bloom Engineering Co Inc.
Can Manufacturers Institute
Closed Loop Partners
Commonwealth Rolled Products
Constellium
Consumer Brands Association
Dow Inc.
EPS Industry Alliance
Ferrero USA
Firstar Fiber, Inc.
Foodservice Packaging Institute
General Mills

Glass Packaging Institute
National Stewardship Action Council
Indiana Chamber of Commerce
Indiana Manufacturers Association
International Bottled Water Association
International Dairy Foods Association
Kentucky Association of Manufacturers
Keurig Dr Pepper
Logan Aluminum, Inc.
MACNY-The Manufacturers Association of Central New York
Manufacture Alabama
Meat Institute
Mondelez International
National Association of Manufacturers
NatureWorks
Novelis, Inc.
NWRA
Oceanic Global
Paper Recycling Coalition
PepsiCo
Plastics Industry Association
Plumbing Manufacturers International
Recycled Materials Association
Rio Tinto

Smelter Service Corporation
Solid Waste Association of North America
(SWANA)
Sustainable Food Policy Alliance
Texans for Clean Water
The Flexible Packaging Association
The Kraft Heinz Company
The Last Pound, LLC
The Recycling Partnership
Tyson Foods
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association
Unilever United States
US Composting Council
US Plastics Pact
World Wildlife Fund
WV Manufacturers Association