

Dear Legislators,

We, as local elected officials, are writing to ask for your support and vote in favor of HB22-1355, Producer Responsibility. Colorado's statewide recycling rate is around 15%, less than half of the national average. HB22-1355 would rapidly improve our recycling systems and become a model for other states to follow.

Producer Responsibility works by shifting the costs of recycling from taxpayers and local governments to consumer brands as part of the cost of doing business. HB22-1355 would make it easy for all Coloradans to recycle more plastics, aluminum cans, glass bottles, cardboard, and printed paper. It will also help businesses by creating a more resilient domestic supply of recycled materials to make new products. This will rapidly improve Colorado's recycling rate and result in fewer greenhouse gas emissions, cleaner air and water, less waste sent to landfills, and stronger local economies.

The Colorado Municipal League (CML) and Colorado Communities for Climate Action (CC4CA) strongly support HB22-1355 to increase recycling rates in Colorado. The benefits from Producer Responsibility include:

REDUCING OR ELIMINATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECYCLING COSTS.

Statewide surveys show that cost is the most common barrier for municipalities to recycle more. Some Colorado local governments spend hundreds of thousands of dollars annually to operate and support recycling collection, transportation, and processing programs, while others lack services and infrastructure. HB22-1355 will reduce, or even eliminate, recycling costs for local governments and create much-needed recycling infrastructure.

CREATING AND SUPPORTING LOCAL GREEN JOBS BY KEEPING VALUABLE MATERIALS CIRCULATING IN COLORADO.

Producer Responsibility funds will be used to develop existing recycling infrastructure, which will create and support local jobs. Colorado landfilled 5.9 million pounds of recyclable material in 2020, which could have been sold for over \$100 million in commodity value. HB22-1355 will keep this value circulating in Colorado, supporting green jobs.

HELPING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS MEET THEIR CLIMATE GOALS BY REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

Not only is improving recycling through Producer Responsibility economically beneficial, but it is also a simple and effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. For every one ton of material recycled, three tons of climate pollution is avoided. HB22-1355 will divert recyclable materials from landfills, which will reduce the amount of methane generated by landfills. Boosting local governments' recycling rates through Producer Responsibility will help them meet their climate action goals sooner.

PROVIDING CONVENIENT AND EQUITABLE RECYCLING ACCESS TO MULTI-FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS AND RURAL COMMUNITIES.

HB22-1355 would bring convenient and equitable recycling access to communities that have been underserved. There have been challenges to bringing recycling services to multi-family households and rural regions of Colorado. Almost 60% of multifamily households do not have convenient access to recycling services. Producer Responsibility will prioritize equitable and convenient recycling access across the state.

PRESERVING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS' CHOICES WITH REGARDS TO RECYCLING SERVICES.

HB22-1355 ensures jurisdictions that provide recycling services or manage recycling contracts have the option to continue to do so but does not impose any recycling requirements on local governments or schools.

Colorado residents are tired of unnecessary packaging and want producers to be more involved in the recycling process. Producer Responsibility is a proven policy that will reduce local government costs, create green jobs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and bring equitable recycling access across Colorado. With your support for HB22-1355, Colorado will become a leader in optimizing local recycling systems.

Respectfully,

Micah	Allen	Golden
Laurie	Anderson	Broomfield
All Members	Aspen City Council	Aspen
Tim	Barnes,	Lafayette
John	Beltrone	Edgewater
Patrick	Berry	Mountain Village
Josh	Blanchard	Summit County
Tony	Briggs	Lafayette
Aaron	Brocket	Boulder
Casey	Brown	Golden
Jessica	Burley	Frisco
Don	Cameron	Golden
Tricia	Canonico	Fort Collins
Guyleen	Castriotta	Broomfield
Steve	Child	Snowmass
John	Clark	Ridgway

Alison	Coombs	Aurora
Polly	Enochs	Ridgway
Obi	Ezeadi	Westminster
Scott	Fetchenhier	San Juan County
Bill	Fisher	Golden
Hannah	Gay Keao	Edgewater
Katherine	Goff	Northglenn
Beth	Goldstone	Crested Butte
Kevin	Grambley	Ridgway
Geoffrey	Grimmer	City of Eagle
Paul	Haseman	Golden
Chris	Haver	Crested Butte
Heidi	Henkel	Broomfield
Kris	Holstrom	San Miguel County
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Rachel	Hultin	Wheat Ridge
Francie	Jacober	Carbondale, CO
Matt	Jones	Boulder County
Paul	Kashmann	Denver
Robin	Kniech	Denver
Beth	Lakin	Ridgway
Kim	Langmaid	Vail
Jean	Lim	Broomfield
James	Marsh-Holschen	Broomfield
Tom	McCracken	Saguache County
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Jeanne	McQueeney	Eagle
Randy	Moorman	Arvada
Jake	Niece	Ouray County

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Robert	Reed	Golden
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Dan	Richardson	Town of Carbondale
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Kyle	Schlachter	Littleton
Katie	Soles	Fraser
Jonathan	Staufer	Vail
Lilly	Steirer	Edgewater, CO
Ashley	Stolzmann	Louisville
Ben	Tisdell	Ouray County
JJ	Trout	Golden
Christiaan	van Woudenberg	Town of Erie
Lance	Waring	San Miguel County
Laura	Weinberg	Golden
Randall	Wheelock	Clear Creek County
Jenny	Willford	Northglenn