

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 117<sup>th</sup> and 118<sup>th</sup> 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  
Kaiser Al  
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