



THROUGH A PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY POLICY FOR PACKAGING, & PRINTED PAPER, MICHIGAN CAN: **INCREASE RECYCLING, REDUCE UNNECESSARY PACKAGING & STRENGTHEN SUPPLY CHAINS**

A PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY SYSTEM FOR PACKAGING, AND PAPER WILL:



Increase our recycling rate and reduce climate pollution.



Provide free recycling for all Michiganders, including those living in apartments and in rural areas.



Provide a clear common list of what can be recycled statewide.



Save local governments money by reimbursing their costs for recycling programs.



Support Michigan businesses by creating a more resilient domestic supply of raw materials to make new products.



Create financial incentives for companies to reduce unnecessary packaging and use greener, more recyclable materials.

A Producer Responsibility policy will make it easy for all Michiganders to recycle more plastics, cardboard, printed paper, metal, and glass. It will also help businesses by creating a more resilient domestic supply of recycled materials to make new products. This will rapidly improve Michigan's recycling rate and result in fewer greenhouse gas emissions, cleaner air and water, less waste sent to landfills, and stronger local economies.

**Recycling avoids
three tons of
climate
pollution for
every ton
recycled.**

HOW A PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY SYSTEM WILL WORK

Companies that sell plastic, metal, glass, and paper containers and packaging into Michigan will be required to pay for a statewide recycling system to recycle their products. The companies will form an independent non-profit organization, called a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO), to coordinate, fund, and manage a statewide recycling system. Companies will pay fees to the PRO based on the amount and type of packaging used. The PRO will then use these funds to pay private companies and local governments to operate recycling programs. The state agency will oversee the PRO, with assistance from an advisory board of local governments, recycling companies, and other stakeholders. The PRO will cover 100% of the costs of recycling, including consumer education and government oversight of the program.

PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY IS A PROVEN SOLUTION

Producer Responsibility programs for containers and packaging materials are in place in over 40 countries and provinces, and some have been active for nearly three decades. Maine, Oregon, Colorado, and California have adopted policies since 2021.

WILL THIS RAISE COSTS FOR CONSUMERS?

There is no evidence to show that Producer Responsibility programs lead to an increase in consumer prices based on research on similar programs throughout Canada and Europe.

BUSINESSES SUPPORT PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY TO STRENGTHEN SUPPLY CHAINS

Businesses are facing massive disruptions in global supply chains and struggling to source the metal, paper, plastic, and glass needed to make new packaging and products. Meanwhile [Michigan buries over 17 million tons of waste](#) in our landfills every year. By recycling more, we can create a reliable domestic supply of materials to make new products. Over [100 global companies](#) have publicly stated their broad support for Producer Responsibility policies to increase recycling, reduce plastic pollution, and help strengthen local economies.

Producer Responsibility in Michigan is gaining strong bipartisan support from local governments, consumer goods companies, recycling businesses, environmental groups, and many more.

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