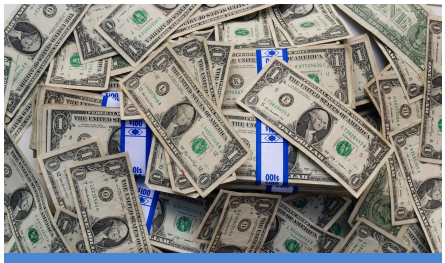
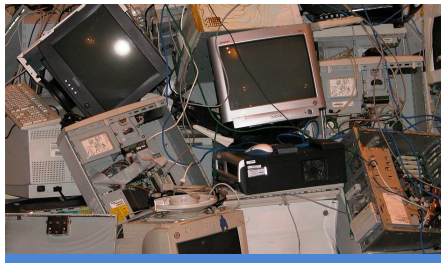
EPR: A Workable Solution for Massachusetts

WHAT IS EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY?

Extended producer responsibility is legislation that includes, at a minimum, the requirement that a manufacturer's responsibility for its product extends to the disposal of that product.



Shift disposal costs away from taxpayers onto producers



Incentivize recyclable and responsible design

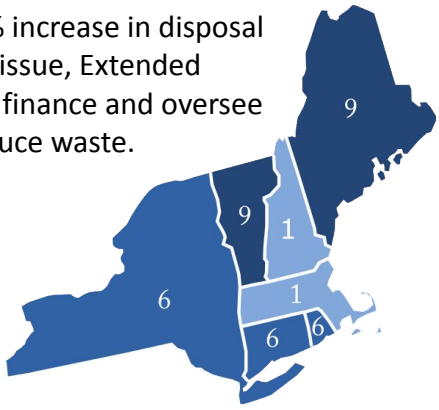
Generate sustainable program funding

MASSACHUSETTS WASTE CAPACITY CRISIS

Waste disposal capacity in Massachusetts is declining yearly, leading to up to a 40% increase in disposal costs. This spike in cost burdens municipal and household budgets. To address this issue, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs, which mandate product manufacturers to finance and oversee collection systems for certain products, are proven to boost recycling rates and reduce waste.

EPR IS WORKING IN NEIGHBORING STATES

Of the 38 EPR laws in the Northeast, **only one is active in Massachusetts.** The EPR laws in neighboring states of Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Vermont, and Maine **save taxpayers millions** of dollars annually to properly manage various materials, such as paint.



EPR is included as a policy solution in the MassDEP 2030 Solid Waste Master Plan and has support from local governments, the Massachusetts Municipal Association, recycling businesses, environmental groups, and more.

Massachusetts needs EPR laws to sustainably fund materials recovery programs, increase waste diversion, and improve convenience for residents. Please contact MassPSC with questions or to learn more.

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