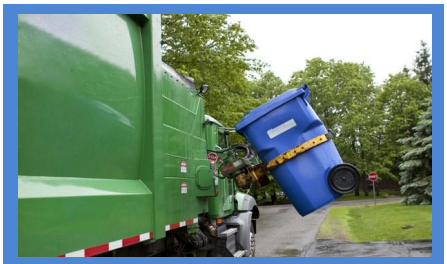
By passing a packaging stewardship law, Massachusetts will:

INCREASE RECYCLING, REDUCE UNNECESSARY PACKAGING, & SAVE MUNICIPALITIES MONEY

A product stewardship law, such as S.571, will make it easy and more convenient for residents to recycle materials like plastics, aluminum cans, glass bottles, cardboard, and paper. This bill will improve the recycling rate across the Commonwealth, lower greenhouse gas emissions, improve air and water quality, reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators, and lower costs for taxpayers.

A STEWARDSHIP LAW FOR CONTAINERS, PACKAGING, AND PAPER WILL:



Provide free recycling for MA residents, including those living in apartments and in rural areas.

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

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

HOW A STEWARDSHIP SYSTEM FOR PACKAGING & PRINTED PAPER WILL WORK

Companies that sell covered materials in the state will form an independent non-profit organization, called a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO), to coordinate, fund, and manage a statewide recycling system. Companies pay fees to the PRO based on the quantity and type of material they sell. The PRO will use funds to reimburse local governments (or private haulers) to operate convenient recycling programs. MassDEP will oversee the PRO, with input from a stakeholder advisory committee.

BUSINESSES SUPPORT PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP TO STRENGTHEN SUPPLY CHAINS

Disruptions in global supply chains can cause businesses to struggle to source materials to make new packaging and products. Meanwhile, more than 5.4 million tons of resources are buried or incinerated in our state every year. Over 100 global companies have publicly stated their broad support for product stewardship policies to increase recycling, reduce plastic pollution, and help strengthen local economies. Product stewardship laws are an essential component of a circular economy.

MASSPSC

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For more information on MassPSC, visit: massrecycle.org

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