Legislation Passed and Signed into Law:

California SB 343 – Truth in Labeling for Recyclable Materials
Sponsor: Ben Allen (D-26)
- Signed into law on October 6, 2021.
- Prohibits use of the “chasing arrows” symbol (or any other indication of recyclability) on products or packaging that isn’t deemed “recyclable” under criteria established by the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery.
- The bill prohibits a person from offering for sale, selling, distributing, or importing into the state any product or packaging using a deceptive or misleading claim about its recyclability.
- Defines products as “recyclable” only if (1) that product is collected in one of the curbside programs that cover at least 60% of the state’s population, (2) can be sorted into defined streams, and (3) can be reclaimed at appropriate facilities.

California AB 1311 - An act to amend Sections 14514.4.1, 14525.5.1, 14538, 14570, 14571, and 14571.5 of, and to add Sections 14503.5.1 and 14572.1 to, the Public Resources Code, relating to recycling.
Sponsor: Jim Wood (D-CA-2)
- Signed into law on October 5, 2021.
- The bill applies the provisions in the California Beverage Container Recycling and Liter Reduction Act applicable to reverse vending machines to bag drop recycling centers, defined to mean a recycling location operated by a recycling center at which consumers can drop off bagged empty beverage containers for redemption.

California AB 881 - An act to add Section 41781.4 to the Public Resources Code, relating to solid waste.
Sponsor: Lorena Gonzalez (D-CA-80)
- Signed into law on October 5, 2021.
- The bill limits export of plastic waste by making the export out of the country of a mixture of plastic wastes “disposal” for purposes of the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989.

California AJR 4 - Relative to the Basel Convention.
Sponsor: Cristina Garcia (D-CA-58)
- Adopted on July 5, 2021.
- This measure declares California to be in favor of the United States’ ratification of the Basel Convention at the earliest opportunity and would request the Biden Administration to accomplish this ratification as a matter of urgency.

Colorado HB 1162 - Concerning the management of plastic products.
**Sponsor: Alex Valdez (D-CO-5)**
- Signed into law on July 6, 2021
- The bill allows local governments to require or ban the use or sale of specific types of plastic materials. The bill prohibits stores and retail food establishments, on and after September 1, 2022, from providing single-use plastic carryout bags and imposes a 10-cent fee for recycled paper carryout bags.

**Connecticut SB 1037 - To add items covered by the provisions of the state's bottle bill program, increase redemption values and handling fees, develop incentives for unit-based pricing programs in municipalities and require certain dealers to have reverse vending machines at their stores.**
**Sponsor: Environment Committee**
- Signed into law on June 16, 2021.
- The bill adds items covered by the provisions of the state's bottle bill program, increases redemption values and handling fees, and develops incentives for unit-based pricing programs in municipalities and require certain dealers to have reverse vending machines at their stores.

**Connecticut SB 928 - To encourage the development of a market for recycled materials.**
**Sponsor: Environment Committee**
- Signed into law on June 14, 2021.
- The bill requires the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection in consultation with relevant businesses and organization to submit to the Governor and General Assembly recommendations for recycled content requirements.

**Maine HP 1146/LD 1541 - An Act To Support and Improve Municipal Recycling Programs and Save Taxpayer Money.**
**Sponsor: Nicole Grohoski of Ellsworth**
- Signed into law on July 12, 2021.
- The bill establishes extended producer responsibility programs for packaging.

**New Jersey A 5121 - Concerns provision of energy to certain manufacturing facilities by providing exemptions to certain energy related taxes.**
**Sponsor: Craig Coughlin (D-NJ-19)**
- Signed into law on September 16, 2021.
- This bill concerns the provision of energy to certain recycled materials manufacturing facilities by exempting, for an initial period of seven years, the sale or use of energy utility service to qualifying recycled materials manufacturing facilities from the sales and use tax.
- The bill requires the Division of Taxation to annually review the economic feasibility of continuing to provide qualifying recycled materials manufacturing facilities with the exemption from the sales and use tax and to submit their recommendations to the Legislature as to whether such exemptions should be continued.
The bill provides that the exemption for recycled materials manufacturing facilities are to be continued until such time that the division recommends the termination of that sales and use tax exemption.

New York A 7564 - An act to amend the education law, in relation to encouraging the elimination of the use of certain single use plastic items at state university of New York and city university of New York campuses.  
Sponsor: Pat Burke (D-NY-142)  
- Signed into law on November 2, 2021.  
- Encourages the elimination of the use of certain single use plastic items at state university of New York and city university of New York campuses.

Oregon SB 582 - Relating to modernizing Oregon's recycling system.  
Sponsor: Michael Dembrow (D-OR-23)  
- Signed into law on August 6, 2021.  
- Establishes producer responsibility program for packaging, printing and writing paper and food serviceware. Requires producers of covered products to join producer responsibility organization that implements producer responsibility program plan approved by Department of Environmental Quality. Directs department to establish uniform statewide collection list for recyclable materials. Establishes Oregon Recycling System Advisory Council. Establishes Truth in Labeling Task Force. Repeals labeling requirements for rigid plastic bottles and containers. Requires commingled recycling processing facility to obtain disposal site permit. Prohibits delivery of certain recyclable materials to recycling processing facility other than permitted or certified facility.

Rhode Island S 104 - An act relating to education -- school waste recycling and refuse disposal.  
Sponsor: Bridget Valverde (D-RI-35)  
- Signed into law on July 12, 2021.  
- Requires schools to comply with recycling and composting laws and promotes the donation of unspoiled nonperishable food by schools. Requires the use of share tables at all schools.

Rhode Island H 5131 - An act relating to food and drugs -- single-use plastic straws.  
Sponsor: David Bennett (D-RI-20)  
- Signed into law on July 7, 2021.  
- Prohibits a food service establishment from providing a consumer with a single-use plastic straw unless the consumer requests such a straw.
Washington SB 5022 - Managing solid waste through prohibitions on expanded polystyrene, providing for food serviceware upon customer request, and requiring recycled content in plastic beverage containers.
Sponsor: Mona Das (D-WA-47)
- Signed into law on May 17, 2021.
- Managing solid waste through prohibitions on expanded polystyrene, providing for food service ware upon customer request, and requiring recycled content in plastic beverage containers.

Monitored Legislation:

California AB 842 – California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act
Sponsor: Cristina Garcia (D-CA-58)
- Introduced on December 17, 2021.
- The bill would establish a comprehensive regulatory scheme for producers, retailers, and wholesalers of single-use packaging and products made of plastic;
  - Would require producers to form or join a stewardship organization to reduce, recover, and recycle single-use products;
    - Stewardship program would be directed to achieve a 75% recycling rate of single-use products by 2032; and
  - Would require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to post a list of packaging categories that are easily recyclable.

California SB 54 – Circular Economy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2020
Sponsors: Ben Allen (D-26), Nancy Skinner (D-9)
- Introduced on December 7, 2020 and reintroduced on January 4, 2022. It passed the Senate on January 24 and there are ongoing negotiations with stakeholders.
- The bill would require all single-use packaging and products sold or distributed in California to be reduced or recycled by 75% by 2030;
- Require all single-use packaging and products be recyclable or compostable by 2030; and
- Instruct CalRecycle to develop incentives and policies to encourage in-state manufacturing using recycled material generated in California.

Colorado SB 180 - Concerning efforts to increase recycling in Colorado.
Sponsor: Kevin Priola (R-CO-25)
- Introduced on March 10, 2021.
- The bill creates the stakeholder advisory committee on recycling (advisory committee) in the department of public health and environment (department) and requires the advisory committee to submit a report on or before July 1, 2022, to subject matter committees of the general assembly, which report must include recommendations in subject matter areas in which the advisory committee achieved consensus and note dissenting opinions in subject matters in which the advisory committee failed to achieved consensus.
New Jersey S 2515 - An Act concerning the sale of certain containers and packaging products in the State and supplementing Title 13 of the Revised Statutes.  
Sponsor: Bob Smith (D-NJ-17)  
- Passed by the Senate on June 24, 2021.  
- Establishes recycled content requirements for plastic containers, glass containers, paper carryout bags, reusable carryout bags made of plastic film, and plastic trash bags; prohibits sale of polystyrene loose fill packaging.

New Jersey S 3853 - Packaging Product Stewardship Act.  
Sponsor: Bob Smith (D-NJ-17)  
- Introduced on June 1, 2021.  
- Requires producers of packaging products sold in New Jersey to adopt and implement packaging product stewardship plans. The performance goals established in a stewardship plan are to provide, at a minimum, for all single-use packaging products to be composed of at least 75 percent post-consumer content by January 1, 2027; all single-use packaging products to be readily recyclable or compostable by January 1, 2030; and all single-use plastic packaging to be reduced to the maximum extent practicable, or by at least 25 percent, by January 1, 2030.

New Jersey A 5803 - AN ACT concerning certain plastic processing facilities, amending P.L.1970, c.39, and supplementing Title 13 of the Revised Statutes.  
Sponsor: John McKeon (D-NJ-27)  
- Introduced on June 1, 2021.  
- This bill would exempt plastic material transported and delivered to, and processed at, an advanced plastic processing facility from State laws regulating the disposal or recycling of solid waste. However, the bill would provide that advanced plastic processing facilities are subject to all other State and federal laws, including environmental laws. The bill would also provide that the terms "advanced plastic processing" and "advanced plastic processing facility" are distinct from various other terms related to solid waste, as described in section 2 of the bill.

New Jersey A 5680 - AN ACT concerning the content and disposal of certain products and supplementing Title 13 of the Revised Statutes.  
Sponsor: Andrew Zwicker (D-NJ-16)  
- Introduced on May 12, 2021.  
- Prohibits sale of certain packaging, paper, and plastic products unless producer implements plan to increase recycled content and recycling rates.

New York S 7375 - Relates to false claims about recyclability and plastic container labelling.  
Sponsor: John Liu (D-NY-11)  
- Introduced on September 13, 2021.  
- Provides that it is deceptive to misrepresent that a product or package is recyclable unless it can be collected, separated or otherwise recovered from the waste stream through an established recycling program for reuse or use in manufacturing or assembling another
item; requires the department of environmental conservation to develop regulations on types and forms of plastic products and packaging for which a claim of recyclability may be made; requires all rigid plastic containers sold in this state be labeled with a code that indicates the resin used to produce such container; makes related provisions.

New York S 1185 - AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to establishing the extended producer responsibility act.
Sponsor: Todd Kaminsky (D-NY-9)
- Introduced on January 8, 2021.
- Establishes the extended producer responsibility act requiring covered materials and product producers to develop and implement strategies to promote recycling, reuse and recovery of packaging and paper products.