Legislative Update on Issues that Impact Plastics Recycling

April 15, 2020
TODAY’S PRESENTERS

Kara Pochiro  
VP of Communications & Public Affairs, APR

Steve Alexander  
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Bruce Magnani  
Vice President and Legislative Advocate, Houston Magnani and Assoc

Elizabeth Biser  
VP Policy & Public Affairs, The Recycling Partnership
WHO IS APR?

International trade association

The Voice of Plastics Recycling®

Companies committed to the success of plastics recycling
Increase Supply
Enhance Quality
Expand Demand
Communicate Value

APR Primary Goals
WHAT DO WE DO?

- APR Design® Guide for Plastics Recyclability
- Training
- Advocacy
- APR Recycling Demand Champions
- PCR Certification
- Resource Development
- Education
UPCOMING WEBINARS

APR's PCR Certification Program
Wed, May 6th @ 2:00 PM EDT

APR's Recycling Demand Champion Campaign
Wed, May 27th @ 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

Registration links, presentation slides and recordings available on the APR Website

www.plasticrecycling.org
Subscribe to APR's Podcast

A podcast from the Association of Plastic Recyclers

Recycled Content

COVID-19 and the Recycling Industry, featuring Brent Bell of Waste Management Recycle America
Legislative Update on Issues that Impact Plastics Recycling
Phase “3.5”

• Ongoing stalemate over $251B in additional funds for fast-depleting PPP program
  • Dems want PPP set-asides, $100B for health response, $150B for states, increases for SNAP, EIDL

• Resolution unclear—without members in town, can only operate by unanimous consent
WHAT COMES NEXT?

Phase Four(+)

- Congress’ return now delayed until 5/4 over safety concerns
- Scope and tone of rhetoric over the next package has shifted as crisis has progressed
  - House Democrats have been most vocal about what should come next
    - Pelosi CARES alternative seen as a marker for future negotiations
    - Early on, floated policies that didn’t make the bill: infrastructure; green tax credits; SALT cap relief
  - Senate Republicans have taken a wait-and-see approach
    - Acknowledge inevitable need for further response, but watching Phase Three
    - Critical of Democrats trying to use crisis to further long-sought policy goals
  - White House has been all over the place: $2T infrastructure package, payroll tax cut
- Broader “recovery” package put on back burner after weeks of ugly job numbers
  - Pelosi now says Congress should move on “CARES 2” upon return; similar scope, more $$$
  - Senate Dems pushing “Heroes Fund” for frontline worker hazard pay, recruitment
Each day we work together with communities and companies to help Americans recycle, and recycle well.
Driving National Recycling System Change Coast to Coast

- Infrastructure Grants
- Reduce Contamination and Increase Participation
- Drive Regional and Statewide System Change
- Connect Peer-to-Peer Networks

Additionally, more than 500 communities representing 30 million households have downloading our free videos, campaigns, social media kits and tech tools.
U.S. Senate RECYCLE Act: Sen. Portman (R-OH)

- EPA recycling education grants
  - Provide recycling information to residents
  - Increase collection rates
  - Decrease contamination rates

- $10 million per year for 5 years (2020-2024)
U.S. House RECOVER Act: Reps. Cárdenas (D-CA), Buchson (R-IN)

- Provides funds to support recycling infrastructure, programs and education
- Upgrade MRFs and enhance the recovery and collection of materials
- Offers a total of $500M allocated over the course of 5 years (2020-2025)
Break Free From Plastic Pollution: Sen. Udall (D-NM), Rep. Lowenthal (D-CA)

• “Kitchen sink” proposal including
  • EPR
  • Bans
  • Recycled content
  • And more…
House Interior Appropriations Committee: Recycling Census

- Appropriate $5M to EPA to conduct a comprehensive data collection effort on community recycling systems, infrastructure and needs
THE RECYCLING SYSTEM IS LOOSELY CONNECTED, HIGHLY INTERDEPENDENT
California Legislative Update
Bruce A. Magnani, VP Houston
Magnani & Associates
California Update

History of pushing sustainable policy

Aggressive Diversion Goals – 75% by 2020

As of last year – 46% trending down

Current regulatory activity
  • SB 1335 – Single Use Packaging & Food Service Ware in State Buildings
  • SB 1383 - Diversion of Organics from Landfills
California Legislative Activity 2019-20

SB 54 (Allen) & AB 1080 (Gonzalez) – Single Use Packaging
• Large Stakeholder Group,

AB 792 (Ting) Minimum Content of Recycled Plastic Beverage Containers
• Vetoed in 2019

SB 1332 (Allen) & AB 2612 (Maienschein)
• Infrastructure Funding
  • Recycling and Composting

Initiative – Plastic Waste, Single Use Packaging and Food Service Ware
• Will it qualify, Why its important
Current Status of California’s Legislature

Extended Recess
• April 13
• May 4
• Current Timeline: Undetermined

Budget
• January, $222b State Budget
• June 15, Deadline

Priorities
• Budget
• COVID-19
• Unemployment
• Housing

Regulations
• Extended periods for public comment
Questions?

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