



ASSOCIATION OF PLASTIC
RECYCLERS

APR 2023 Recycling Policy Round-up

A Look Back and a Look Ahead

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Today's Team



Kara Pochiro

VP Communications
& Public Affairs, APR



Kate Bailey

Chief Policy Officer,
APR



Marissa Heffernan

Staff Reporter,
Resource Recycling

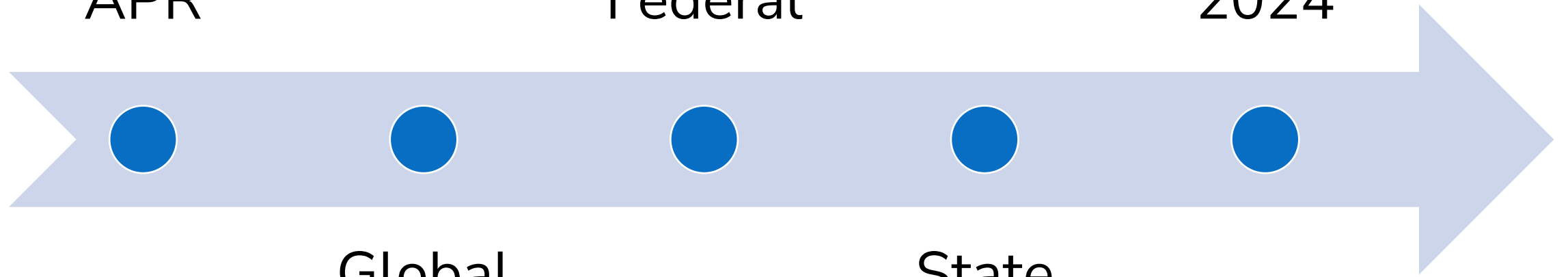


TODAY'S AGENDA

Who is
APR

Federal

2024



Global

State



Who is APR?



APR is a US-based international non-profit and the only North American organization focused exclusively on improving recycling for plastics.



**Reclaimers and Recyclers
are the CORE of APR**

APR Member Sampling

RECLAIMERS/RECYCLERS



AFFILIATES



[View all APR Members »](#)

Together, APR members span the entire value chain and shape the future of our industry.

- Reclaimers/Recyclers
- Brand Owners
- Retailers
- Converters
- Equipment Manufacturers
- Testing Laboratories
- Certifiers
- Label & Ink Manufacturers
- Resin Manufacturers
- Additives Manufacturers
- Researchers
- Technical Consultants
- And more!



APR Programs Are Circular by Design®

Together, we can reduce plastic waste and move towards a circular economy



APR POLICY PRIORITIES



**Design for
recyclability
standards**



**Funding for
recycling collection
& processing**



**Increased demand
for recycled plastic
in new products**

THREE YEARS OF STRONG POLICY MOMENTUM

Global

- UN treaty
- Basel convention on plastics

National

- More bills now than past 20 years combined
- EPA grants > \$250 million
- US Plastics Pact
- Broad agencies engagement

EPR for packaging

- 4 states enacted
- 3 states with needs assessments
- 10+ states considering
- First US packaging PRO

Minimum recycled plastic content

- 5 states with policies
- 4 states considering
- Federal procurement regs



TOP 2023 HIGHLIGHT

**CHAT QUESTION:
WHAT'S YOUR TOP
POLICY HIGHLIGHT
FROM 2023?**



GLOBAL LANDSCAPE

UN INC TO END PLASTICS POLLUTION

Market transformation to circularity through
3 MARKET SHIFTS

REDUCE
the size
of the
problem



Deal
with the
LEGACY

Policies and Regulatory Framework



GLOBAL PLASTICS TREATY: APR PRIORITIES

Key policy elements

- EPR for packaging
- Design for circularity standards
- Minimum recycled content rates
- Endorsed Business Coalition for Global Plastics Treaty

Support technical annexes

- Definitions of problematic plastics
- Design for recycling & APR Design Guide
- Potential chemicals and toxic substances of concern



CANADIAN LANDSCAPE

PROPOSED CANADIAN PLASTICS REGULATIONS

Labeling requirements for recyclable plastics

- 80% population access compared to 60% threshold in US
- Must be recyclable as scale by 2030

Recycled content requirements

- 50% target by 2030
- Format specific targets, some exemptions

Plastic food packaging reduction goals

- 95% produce sold in bulk or plastic-free by 2028
- 100% reusable, recyclable, compostable by 2028



US FEDERAL LANDSCAPE

AUDIENCE POLL

- What's your top priority for federal action?
 - Grant funding for infrastructure
 - Product labeling
 - Bottle deposit policy
 - Extended producer responsibility policy
 - Recycled content policy



2023 CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

REINTRODUCED BILLS

- Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act
- REDUCE Act: fee on virgin plastic
- Recycling and Composting Accountability Act
- Recycling Infrastructure and Accessibility Act

COMMITTEE ACTION

- EPW hearings on plastic pollution

BILLS RUMORED TO BE IN PROGRESS

- National labeling program
- ACC platform on chemical recycling, 30% recycled content
- National bottle deposit



FEDERAL AGENCY ENGAGEMENT

STATE DEPT	UN negotiations on plastic pollution (INC)
EPA	\$250M+ in grants; national recycling and plastic pollution strategies
DOE	Strategy for Plastics Innovation & funding
FTC	Green Guides labeling and product claims
NREL	BOTTLE R&D
NIST	Standards setting and reports
WHITE HOUSE CEQ	National strategy, interagency coordination
DOI AND NPS	EO to ban single-use plastics



STATE LANDSCAPE

AUDIENCE POLL

- Question: Which state policy is most important to you?
 - EPR for packaging
 - Source reduction or reuse targets
 - Minimum recycled content standards
 - Bans on plastics or potential chemicals of concern
 - Labeling requirements



STATE LEVEL ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

115 state-level bills relevant to recycling in 2023

TOPIC	# OF BILLS
EPR for paint, solar panels, packaging, construction debris, vapes, tires, carpet and household hazardous waste	26
Bans	17
Chemical recycling	15
Right to repair	12
Deposit return systems	11
Source reduction	9

EPR FOR PACKAGING RECAP

PASSED

- Illinois – needs assessment
- Maryland – needs assessment
- New Hampshire – study bill

DISCUSSED

- Washington, New York, Connecticut, Hawaii, New Jersey
- Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, Massachusetts, Rhode Island

EXISTING

- California
- Colorado
- Oregon
- Maine

EPR IMPLEMENTATION



CALIFORNIA

- Informal rulemaking
- Advisory board named



COLORADO

- PRO awarded to CAA
- Needs assessment started
- Advisory board meetings



MAINE

- Informal rulemaking



OREGON

- List of recyclable materials
- Reimbursement rates
- Recycling facility standards




MINIMUM RECYCLED CONTENT REGULATIONS

PASSED: Connecticut



DISCUSSED: Maryland, New York, Washington,
federal procurement rulemaking



EXISTING: CA, ME, NJ, WA

BOTTLE DEPOSIT POLICIES

UPDATED

Maine, California



DISCUSSED

National, CA, MA, NY, VT (vetoed), ME, RI, IL, MI



EXISTING

CA, CT, HI, IA, MA, ME, MI, NY, OR, VT

ADDITIONAL HOT POLICY TOPICS

Right to repair:

- California and Minnesota passed; 12 states considered

Chemical recycling:

- IN, KS, LA, TX, UT passed laws to classify as manufacturing; ME, NH discussed opposite approach

EPR for hard to recycle products:

- CT tire regulations and VT hazardous waste passed as new models for these products

Product bans:

- IL, OR and RI banned polystyrene; several states targeted plastic bags, hotel toiletries, bottled water



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024

WHAT TO WATCH IN 2024



MARISSA'S LIST

- Results of needs assessments in various states
- Right to repair (R2R)
- Circular Action Alliance/ the PRO question
- Changing big brand positions on R2R and EPR
- Chemical recycling/recycling definitions



KATE'S LIST

- EPR policies in WA, MN, MI & others
- Build up toward 2025 policies on EPR and recycled content
- UN plastics pollution negotiations
- California what's recyclable list
- Needs assessments for EPR implementation



QUESTIONS?





ASSOCIATION OF PLASTIC
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Thank you!



Marissa Heffernan
marissa@resource-recycling.com



Kate Bailey
katebailey@plasticsrecycling.org



Kara Pochiro
kara@plasticsrecycling.org