



# PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR PACKAGING

## PROBLEM

Packaging waste is filling our landfill, clogging our waters, and damaging our climate. Most plastic packaging is unrecyclable and towns and cities get stuck with all the costs.

## SOLUTION

The Rhode Island Extended Producer Responsibility Act would hold consumer brands accountable for the entire lifecycle of their waste and would replace single-use packaging with reusable, recyclable, and non-toxic options.

## FIVE KEY ELEMENTS

1

### Strong Oversight and Accountability

DEM identifies needs and barriers for waste reduction, reuse, and recycling, sets rules and fees, and oversees the program.

2

### Fees Incentivizing Better Packaging

Brands pay fees based on how difficult it is to recycle or reuse their packaging. The fees fund reuse and recycling infrastructure and education and compensate towns and cities for recycling costs.

3

### Required Packaging Reductions

Brands must reduce their packaging volume, transition to reuse, and ensure that their remaining packaging is recyclable.

4

### No Loopholes for Burning Plastic

Recycling does not include dangerous plastic-burning technologies like pyrolysis or so-called "advanced recycling."

5

### Eliminate Toxics from Packaging

DEM designates toxic chemicals that brands must eliminate from their packaging.

