TESTIMONY OF VICTOR HORTON MAINE RESOURCE RECOVERY ASSOCIATION

LD 2091 – "An Act to Allow the Reuse of Food Containers by More than One Customer"

Joint Standing Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources January 22, 2024

Senator Ingwersen, Representative Pluecker and esteemed members of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee:

On Behalf of the Board of Directors of Maine Resource Recovery Association (MRRA), it is a privilege to submit testimony to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee in support of LD 2091

This bill will move forward efforts to get reusable containers into the hands of the public.

The convenience and satisfaction of being able to do your part so to speak in managing our own waste is very important.

This act will allow us as a consuming public to act in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner and it offers a great alternative to single use containers.

Some people, I included will reuse the containers in use currently many times, but how nice it would be to be able to bring them back for reuse over and over.

What a great idea and a sound waste management practice.

Perhaps this will help pave the way to the public expecting this type of activity in the future and help us embrace other reuses soon.

Thank you for considering my testimony and providing the opportunity to be heard.

The MRRA was formed in 1984 with solid waste and recycling issues in mind. We are a non-profit entity with a mission to foster professional solid waste management practices that will benefit Maine communities. Our members number just over 160 cities and towns including 60 transfer stations and recycling centers. MRRA markets recyclables, provides transportation, administers revenue sharing among the towns, and performs other solid waste and recycling services including an annual backyard composter sale.

Sincerely.

Victor Horton

Executive Director