

My town uses curbside pick-up because the previous landfills were overwhelmed and there is no suitable spot for a new one. Every pound of unrecyclable waste costs every taxpayer more money. The EPR rules were designed through a thoughtful and inclusive process to strengthen Maine's recycling program. This bill, LD 1423, will do nothing but delay the progress and rewrite the rules in favor of corporations who want to evade any real responsibility for the post sale effects of their business decisions. This type of program, generally known as Extended Producer Responsibility, is not unique or an example of "radical environmentalism." Every nation in the European Union, Japan, Australia, as well as all but one of Canada's provinces, just to name a few of the places around the globe have enacted ERP rules. While Maine and Oregon may be leading the nation in having effective and fair EPR rules, the United States lags far behind. Enacting LD 1423 would represent a significant step backward for Maine, and the entirety of the United States.