Roger Pomerleau Retail Association of Maine LD 1423

Maine should align its EPR for Packaging law with other states like CO, OR, MN, CA, and MD.

"Consumer" should be properly defined to ensure that it does not include industrial and commercial entities.

Align the "producer" definition with other states – to clearly identify who is responsible for compliance with the law.

Defines currently undefined terms in the law and the rules, such as "responsible-end market"; "commingled recycling processing facility"; and clarifies "post-consumer recycled material" to align with other states.

Removes education and litter pick-up as recycling of packaging. Forcing producers to reimburse municipal education and litter costs is not an appropriate mechanism for funding these activities.

Clarify the list of toxic chemicals down to a reasonable universe - not 2000+ chemicals as in the current law; an impossibly high number of chemicals to certify and screen for in packaging.

Remove the burdensome mandatory UPC Code requirement and instead allows a list of all registered products and brands, which is consistent with all other EPR programs in the other states.

Create greater flexibility in manufacturer fees and further align Maine's regulations with the other states.

Establishes more flexibility in performance goals, and allow them to be based on data, like the Minnesota, Colorado, and Oregon law and soon to be law in Maryland. Most importantly, if changes are not made to the law now, the next window is in 2027.