

May 9, 2025

Senator Denise Tepler, Senate Chair Representative Lori Gramlich, House Chair Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources c/o Office of Policy and Legal Analysis 13 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

RE: Support for LD-754 – An Act to Ban the Sale, Use and Possession of Single-use Electronic Cigarettes and to Review Extended Producer Responsibility Options for All Batteries

Dear Senator Tepler, Representative Gramlich, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the National Stewardship Action Council (NSAC), we are writing to express strong support for LD-754 – *An Act to Ban the Sale, Use and Possession of Single-use Electronic Cigarettes and to Review Extended Producer Responsibility Options for All Batteries.* 

As an organization committed to advancing a circular economy through smart policy and producer responsibility, NSAC applauds this bill's effort to reduce waste, protect public health, and hold manufacturers accountable for the environmental and public health impacts of their products.

Single-use electronic cigarettes, particularly those containing lithium-ion batteries, pose serious risks at end of life. When improperly discarded, these devices can spark or explode, causing fires on waste and recycling trucks and at processing facilities. They also disproportionately target youth through flavored marketing and sleek, concealable designs.

We strongly support the bill's call to explore Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for all batteries. With the rise of battery-embedded products, Maine can lead by establishing producer-led, no-cost-to-the-state solutions to protect public health and ease local government burdens.

We thank Senator Bennett, Representative Gramlich, and all cosponsors for their leadership. NSAC urges the Committee to advance LD-754 and stands ready to support Maine's efforts to build a safer, more sustainable materials management system.

Sincerely,

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Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director National Stewardship Action Council

The Vision of NSAC

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