



May 6, 2021

Maine State Legislature  
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
c/o Legislative Information Office  
100 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(Submitted Electronically)

To Whom it May Concern:

Amcor is submitting its support of Maine's LD 1471, "An Act to Establish a Stewardship Program for Packaging" and opposition to Maine's LD 1541, "An Act to Support and Improve Municipal Recycling Programs and Save Taxpayer Money."

Amcor is a global leader in developing and producing responsible packaging for food, beverage, pharmaceutical, medical, home- and personal care, and other products.

Amcor works with leading consumer goods companies around the world to protect their products and the people who rely on them. Amcor is focused on making packaging that is increasingly light-weighted, recyclable and reusable, and made using a rising amount of recycled content. We believe this is the right approach to protect the environment while ensuring food, beverages and medicines are safe for consumer consumption.

Amcor is committed to a circular economy for rigid and flexible packaging – designing the right package for the product and utilizing less water and energy to do so; emitting less greenhouse gases in the manufacture and transportation of the package; using the least amount of packaging, plastic or multi-materials, necessary for the protection of the product; and creating less waste in the first place. We are also working on solutions for more robust collection, processing and recycling of rigid and flexible products as well as sustainable end markets.

Amcor believes extended producer responsibility (EPR) can be an important component to these solutions and therefore supports LD 1471 as it would provide for a real EPR system. Under LD 1471, producers would develop and institute a program that would provide needed investment for access to and expanded opportunities for recycling of all packaging types in Maine, as well as end markets for recycled materials. In contrast, LD 1541 would give the Department of Environmental Protection the authority through rulemaking and a government contractor, to assess fees on producers for packaging, while dictating not only the amount of the fees, but where and how the fees should be distributed to reimburse current municipal solid waste programs, which is not EPR. LD 1541 focuses on the current system, including disposal of packaging, while LD 1471 focuses on the future to ensure that all packaging is recycled. Thus, Amcor opposes LD 1541.

Amcor urges the Committee to vote in favor of LD 1471 and not in favor of LD 1541. Amcor is a member of the Flexible Packaging Association (FPA) and supports its testimony on

these bills and its support of LD 1471 as it adheres to FPA's Circularity for Flexible Packaging elements detailed with the Product Stewardship Institute at <https://www.flexpack.org/end-of-packaging-life> and works towards a real EPR system for packaging in the state.

In advance, thank you for your consideration. If we can provide further information or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Alison Keane, President & CEO, FPA, at [akeane@flexpack.org](mailto:akeane@flexpack.org) or 410-694-0800.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Hodges  
Vice President, Public Affairs  
Amcor