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From: jean murphy <murphyteam@harborviewproperties.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 12:52 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 428: Stewardship Program for Packaging

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DEP,

I strongly support the proposed Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging rules. Implementing EPR will reduce taxpayer costs, improve recycling, and reduce the waste entering our landfills.

Maine taxpayers should not carry the burden of wasteful packaging produced by large companies. Our landfills are bursting with plastic. Excessive packaging now compensates for lack of an item's quantity -- more packaging bulk hides a reduction the item's content. EPR is a commonsense solution that provides financial incentives for producers to minimize waste and increase recyclability. Maine has had success in other EPR programs, such as the bottle bill and programs for rechargeable batteries, mercury-containing products, electronics, paint, and pharmaceuticals. Applying this practical approach to packaging is a logical and long overdue next step.

I urge the Board to adopt the EPR for Packaging rules, setting an example for other states and contributing to a cleaner, more sustainable Maine. Let Maine lead... Thank you.

Sincerely,
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