

Nadeau, Jessica

From: Lindy Moceus <Lindy@fairpoint.net>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2024 2:22 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 428: Stewardship Program for Packaging

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

DEP,

I very much support the proposed Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging rules. We are overwhelmed with plastic. Health officials tell us that our bodies all contain microplastics! Why are we always the guinea pigs for big business and whatever products they want to flood us with? And, as if that wasn't bad enough, Maine taxpayers and communities are on the hook for disposing the wasteful packaging produced by these large companies. About 30-40% of materials managed by towns are packaging waste, costing Maine taxpayers at least \$16 million each year!!!! That certainly adds insult to injury.

EPR for Packaging would charge major producers – like multi-billion dollar Amazon – for the packaging they send into Maine, which would then be used to make recycling more accessible and affordable for everyone. Implementing EPR will reduce taxpayer costs, improve recycling, and reduce the waste entering our landfills.

Maine has had success in other EPR programs, like the bottle bill and programs for rechargeable batteries, mercury-containing products, electronics, paint, and pharmaceuticals. Applying this practical approach to packaging is a logical next step.

Please do the right thing and adopt the EPR for Packaging rules. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Lindy Moceus
601 Town house Rd
Vienna, ME 04360