

ISRI Position on Producer Responsibility¹

Overview:

A significant number of state bills are being introduced that would shift the responsibility (liability and costs) for the recycling of used products from end users and local governments to the manufacturer of the product. However, many of the producer responsibility approaches are designed in such a way that ignores the strength, capabilities and vibrancy of the existing scrap recycling industry in the United States. ISRI supports a position that promotes a competitive, market-based system that assures the free and fair trade of recyclable and recycled materials.

It is the position of the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. (ISRI) that:

- Supports a competitive market-based system that assures the free and fair trade of materials destined for recycling Does not restrict, direct or interfere with the free flow of recyclable and recycled materials.
- Opposes government imposed fees and mandates that hold producers financially responsible to collect and recycle certain products, such as vehicles , refrigerators, appliances, and other products containing metal, , tires; aluminum cans, plastics; and paper and paper packaging that are being manufactured into commodity grade materials and sold into viable, commercial markets without subsidies or noncompetitive, fixed pricing
- Allows in certain instances to hold producers financially responsible for costs associated with responsibly recycling certain products, such as used electronics equipment and mercury light switches. ISRI supports ending producer responsibility and government imposed fees as soon as practicable
- Consistent with ISRI's position on Design for Recycling[®] requires manufacturers to consider during the design and manufacture stage, the need to ensure that their products can be safely and economically recycled to the maximum extent practicable

- Ensures the existing recycling infrastructure shall be given an equal opportunity to participate in programs that impose fees on recyclables or that hold producers financially responsible

¹ As Adopted by the ISRI Board of Directors on July 27, 2011