



Please send policy activities happening in your states that you want included in the next update to [Justin Short](#); updates will be sent every two weeks. The update is shared with ISRI's Lobbyist Network; feel free to forward to your respective Chapter members.

You can view legislation and regulations impacting the recycled materials industry using [ISRI's State Resources and Tracking](#) page reports. Reports are available by commodity and issue targeted and can be sorted alphabetically or by last action using the toggle in the upper right.

### Catalytic Converters and State Insurance Legislators

The National Council of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) Property & Casualty Insurance Committee met virtually on Friday, February 2 and discussed the current draft of the [NCOIL Catalytic Converter Model Legislation](#). While ISRI staff have attempted to work with NCOIL on the draft, our previously offered amendments are not reflected in the current draft.

Todd Foreman, ISRI's Director of Law Enforcement Outreach, shared with the Committee that every state but Wyoming already has specific requirements for converter purchases and asked them to continue working on the model with the recycled materials industry, law enforcement, and other stakeholders.

Several Committee members - including one of the draft's original sponsors - raised the possibility of changing the model to a resolution supporting stronger catalytic converter laws at NCOIL's Spring Meeting in April to avoid having NCOIL release a model for bills that will not typically be heard by state legislatures' insurance committees.

### Alaska

- **Chemical Recycling:** 2023 [HB 143](#), a chemical "advanced" recycling bill that stalled in the House last year after introduction, has been carried over and referred to the House Rules Committee after passing the House Labor and Commerce Committee.

### Alabama

- **Chemical Recycling:** Members are watching for new language for the chemical "advanced" recycling definitions introduced in 2023 as [HB 460](#). The bill was reported favorably by the House Commerce and Small Business Committee in May 2023, but was indefinitely postponed later that month. While the American Chemistry Council had

agreed to rename its definitions to "molecular recycling" in 2023, a draft is not yet available for 2024.

### Colorado

- **Law Enforcement Outreach:** Todd Foreman and Abby Blocker, ISRI's VP of State and Local Government Affairs, provided the Aurora Police Department and Denver Police Department with catalytic converters and copper theft training on January 30 and 31. Additionally, the training featured an educational visit for the law enforcement officers to the Atlas Metal and Iron Corporation facility with the Rocky Mountain Chapter Chair Ben Rosen.
- **PFAS Ban:** [SB 81](#) creates a large-scale ban on products containing intentionally added PFAS. Members are seeking clarifications to ensure that the continued use of recycled materials is protected.

### Florida

- **PFAS / Stormwater:** [HB 1665](#) / [SB 1692](#), requiring wastewater facilities create an inventory of industrial users to identify probable sources of PFAS and other chemicals and requiring the DEP create permitting requirements for identified industrial users, is unlikely to move this session.
- **EV Battery Deposit:** [HB 1645](#) has been amended to remove the proposed EV Battery Deposit Program following member discussions with the sponsors.

### Georgia

- **Auto Shredder Residue:** Bobby Treisch of SA Recycling and Brian Hudson with the Georgia Recyclers Association testified in support of [HB 654](#) before the House Natural Resources and Environment Subcommittee on Resource Management on February 9. HB 654 fixes a 2019 bill that inadvertently increased fees on small recycling businesses who dispose of automobile shredder residue at privately owned solid waste facilities from \$1.00 per ton or volume equivalent to \$2.50 per ton or volume equivalent.
- **Catalytic Converters:** Governor Brian Kemp Administration Floor Leader Senator Bo Hatchett (R – Cornelia) introduced [SB 479](#) this week to clean up some of the confusing language from SB 60 that passed in 2023. The bill clarifies registration and business licensing requirements for secondary metals recyclers and authorizes the Georgia Sheriff's Association to recoup costs from registration fees for managing registrations and the secondary metals recyclers database.
- **Environmental Permitting:** [HB 1169](#) was introduced on February 6, requiring the environmental permit approval process to consider any violations of environmental laws, regulations, and associated penalties incurred by the applicant in another state. This bill would apply to businesses seeking permits related to mineral and water resources, soil erosion/sedimentation, or air pollution prevention. Concerns have been raised that this

could lead to permit denials based on minor infractions, potentially affecting out-of-state businesses moving into Georgia.

### Hawaii

- **Packaging EPR / Plastic Bans:** Statewide needs assessment bills [HB 1688](#) and [SB 2368](#) seem likely to move forward over other proposed Zero Waste Initiative legislation. However, [HB 2536](#), banning single use food service ware and beverage service items, and [HB 1585](#), banning EPS food service containers on state property or at state sponsored or permitted events, were also moved forward by the House Energy and Environmental Protection Committee.

### Indiana

- **Vehicle Detitling:** Chapter-supported [SB 65](#) passed the Senate unanimously on February 5 following testimony by Indiana Legislative Chair Jerry Andrews of OmniSource and Phil Thompson of River Metals Recycling before the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Transportation. The bill allows older vehicles to be purchased without a certificate of title or authority. The Chapter worked with the Indiana State Police on an amendment to raise the vehicle age threshold to 20 years in order to gain more stakeholder support.

### Iowa

- **Catalytic Converters:** Member-supported [HF 713](#) passed the House last year with unanimous support, but had been delayed in theenate Ways and Means Committee. The bill has now been referred to Senate Commerce and is expected to move forward this year.

### Maine

- **Packaging EPR:** Maine's Department of Environmental Protection publicly released its [Packaging Stewardship Program draft rules](#) on February 5. A public hearing will be held in Augusta on March 7; comments on the draft rules are due by March 18, 2024 and should be sent to [rulecomments.dep@maine.gov](mailto:rulecomments.dep@maine.gov). For updates, sign up for the [DEP rulemaking notifications](#).
- **Recyclability / Labeling:** While public language still is not available for [LD 295](#) and a hearing date has not been set, the bill will be California-like requirements for product labeling and recyclability requirements. As the state is actively working on regulations to implement the Packaging EPR law passed in 2021, the Administration is not expected to support the bill.

## Maryland

- **Catalytic Converters:** [HB 871](#) would add requirements for the VIN, plate number, make, and model of a vehicle a catalytic converter was removed from to the state's recordkeeping requirements, and confuse the current requirements for dismantlers by requiring recordkeeping and reporting for purchases of vehicles with the converter attached. The Maryland Department of State Police Vehicle Theft Prevention Council has reached out to ISRI for comments on the proposed amendments; members have also arranged a meeting with the sponsor this week.
- **Recycled Content:** [HB 168](#) creates postconsumer recycled content requirements for plastic beverage containers and rigid plastic containers, with producers required to register individually or as part of a producer representative organization. The bill is unlikely to gain traction, as last year's [SB 222](#) already requires the creation of a Producer Responsibility Organization and a statewide recycling needs assessment in preparation for future packaging EPR legislation.
- **Rubberized Asphalt:** [HB 781](#) would require the use of rubber modified asphalt in the construction, reconstruction, and repair of State highways. The bill is scheduled for a hearing by the House Environment and Transportation Committee on February 22.
- **Synthetic Turf:** Returning again for 2024, [HB 457](#) is the latest version of legislation that would require a chain of custody tracked by the Department of Environment for synthetic turf fields and infill. The bill is scheduled for a hearing this Friday, February 16 by the House Environment and Transportation Committee.

## Minnesota

- **Packaging / Bottles:** Following on discussions led by Hennepin County during 2023, [HF 3577](#) / [SF 3561](#) create a packaging and paper products EPR program that includes consideration for a bottle deposit system, which is also expected to be introduced this year.

## Missouri

- **Catalytic Converters:** [HB 1948](#) was substitute amended on February 7 to replace three separate proposals for amendments to the state's catalytic converter purchasing requirements. Mid-America Chapter Lobbyist Trent Ford will be meeting with the Speaker's office this week to explain the recycled materials industry's concerns with the current draft and how it can be amended to better address converter thefts.

## Nebraska

- **Catalytic Converters:** While [LB347](#), creating additional requirements for catalytic converter transactions, was carried over from the 2023 session, there are no indications that it will be moved from the Judiciary Committee this year.

- **Chemical Recycling:** [LB599](#)'s chemical "advanced" recycling definitions, however, are expected to be taken up again by the legislature this year. The bill creates "advanced recycling" definitions and exemptions from state solid waste definitions and state and local governmental oversight that are not extended to mechanical recyclers.

### New Hampshire

- **Packaging EPR:** [HB 1630](#) was heard by the House Environment and Agriculture Committee last week, but was voted inexpedient to legislate, making it unlikely that New Hampshire will move forward on packaging EPR legislation this year.
- **Recyclability / Labeling:** [HB 1376](#), creating California-like requirements for product labeling and recyclability requirements, is scheduled for a full work session by the House Environment and Agriculture Committee on February 13, but faces opposition from the Department of Environmental Services as well as the business community.

### New York

- **Packaging and Paper EPR:** New versions of companion legislation [A5322](#) and [S4246](#) were introduced on February 9. The new versions change some minimum thresholds for businesses to be excluded from requirements and other small changes, but do not significantly impact the overall requirements for a packaging and single-use plastics EPR program.
- **Catalytic Converters:** Members are working with potential sponsors to introduce legislation to fix some issues with the catalytic converter purchase requirements passed in 2022.

### Ohio

- **Catalytic Converters:** Members are working with the sponsors of [HB 328](#) / [SB 165](#) to focus amendments on increased penalties for violations and ensure additional funds for enforcement.

### Oregon

- **Vehicles:** While the bill did not move forward this year, members will be meeting with the sponsor of [HB 4039](#), creating an income tax credit for individuals who surrender a motor home or RV to a licensed dismantler, to ensure that the legislation is properly crafted and reflects the difficulties involved in recycling these items.

### Rhode Island

- **Environmental Justice Permitting:** Just reintroduced today for the 2024 session, [S 2292](#), the Green Justice Zone Act essentially seeks to push named industrial facilities,

including scrap metal processors and other recycling facilities, out of any location designated as a Green Justice Zone, and bans "polluting facilities", including metal recyclers, from overburdened communities.

- **Microplastics:** [H 7515](#) / [S 2300](#) would require the creation of a state plan to test water, soil, and other environmental media for microplastics, including microplastics that have been shed from vehicle tires, and ban the sale of any product containing intentionally added synthetic polymer microparticles. The bill also requires the creation of a statewide microplastics strategy plan that includes an investigation of sources and approaches for reducing microplastics. Given the broad definition of microplastics, this could lead to unpredictable impacts on plastic and rubber products.
- **PFAS Product Ban:** [H 7356](#) / [S 2152](#) propose wide-scale bans on "intentionally added" PFAS in covered products by January 1, 2027, including artificial turf, carpets, cookware, and juvenile product, and requires manufacturers of any product for sale to consumers that contains intentionally added PFAS report register that product on a public website. Rhode Island already passed a ban on PFAS in food packaging in 2022.

## Virginia

- **Tires:** [SB 414](#) was left in committee on February 6 following opposition testimony by Southeast Region Lobbyist Rob Shinn. Members are engaged with several stakeholders, including the Dept. of Environmental Quality, on amendments to [HB 496](#) to create licensing for haulers and tire processors and increase the fee on the sale of new tires.
- **Recyclability / Labeling:** [HB 228](#), creating California-like requirements for product labeling and recyclability requirements, was held over to the 2025 session following a hearing by the House Labor and Commerce Committee, making it unlikely to move forward this year..
- **Market Development:** [HB 316](#), creating the Virginia Recycling Development Center to provide or issue grants for R&D, marketing assistance, and policy analysis for recycling market development, passed the House Appropriations Committee on February 9 and will be heard on the House floor.

## Washington

- **Environmental Justice Permitting:** [HB 2070](#) creating New Jersey-like permitting requirements for scrap metal facilities and other recyclers passed the House Environment and Energy Committee on January 29, but did not move past House Appropriations before the fiscal committee deadline on February 5. The Senate version, [SB 5990](#), did not pass its first committee.
- **Packaging and Paper Products EPR:** [HB 2049](#) passed the House Appropriations Committee on February 3, clearing its first deadline for the session. The 108-page bill still faces a steep climb to pass before Washington's session ends on March 7, and some discussions have raised amending the bill into a strong statewide needs assessment to set

the stage for future legislation, similar to what passed in Maryland and Illinois last year, along with new recycled content requirements for select plastic containers.

- **Bottle Deposit:** [HB 2144](#) passed the House Finance Committee on February 5 and was referred to Rules for review. The bill would remove covered beverage containers from any EPR law and require the creation of a distributor organization to oversee the 10-cent deposit program on glass, metal, and plastic bottles and cans greater than 4 ounces and less than or equal to 1 gallon.
- **Catalytic Converters:** Chapter-supported [HB 2153](#) passed the House Transportation Committee on February 5 with amendments to the proposed new crime of trafficking in catalytic converters. The bill is expected to move forward during Washington's short 2024 session.
- **Tires / 6PPD:** [SB 5931](#) was amended to stress that the Safer Products for Washington rulemaking process must consider the effect on driver and passenger safety in any action it may take to restrict the use of 6PPD in tires before passing the Senate on February 6.

### West Virginia

- **Packaging / Local Preemption:** [HB 4636](#) preempts local ordinances or other requirements on a variety of issues, including the sale or marketing of consumer merchandise, and specifically includes any bag, cup, package, container, bottle, or other packaging. The bill's legislative findings section cites preventing local bans on bags, drinking straws, and bottled water as a core intent of the bill.