



**Via Electronic Mail**

September 20, 2022

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Chairman  
House Energy & Commerce Committee  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Ranking Member  
House Energy & Commerce Committee  
2322 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member Rodgers:

The Consumer Brands Association supports two important legislative proposals aiming to expand rural access to recycling infrastructure and improve recycling and composting data gathering:

- i. H.R.8183, the *Recycling Infrastructure and Accessibility Act*, establishes a pilot rural recycling program at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that would award competitive grants to eligible entities that improve recycling accessibility in underserved communities.
- ii. H.R.8059, the *Recycling and Composting Accountability Act*, improves data collection by requiring the EPA to collect and make publicly available data on recycling and composting rates across the country.

Consumer Brands is a trade association for manufacturers of consumer packaged goods (CPG), representing nearly 2,000 brands that make the food, beverage, cleaning and personal care products that American consumers depend on every day. A core focus of our organization is promoting thoughtful federal solutions that will reduce waste and fix the broken recycling system. Both H.R.8183 and H.R.8059 are solid examples of such policies and reflect a bipartisan, bicameral commitment to addressing our nation's recycling challenges. Notably, the Senate versions of these bills (S.3742 and S.3743, respectively) were passed by the Senate on July 28 by unanimous consent.

The *Recycling Infrastructure and Accessibility Act* will support rural communities around the country in their efforts to build out the infrastructure required to expand recycling access and foster circular economies. These investments will enable underserved communities to realize the economic and environmental benefits recycling provides. The grant program will also help bolster the nation's abysmal recycling rate, which lingers at less than 35 percent.

Additionally, the *Recycling and Composting Accountability Act* will address a critical problem with the U.S. recycling system: a nationwide lack of reliable, accessible data on recycling and composting. This bill will fill information gaps and provide the data businesses need to spur recycling and composting innovation.

Thank you for your continued leadership on recycling and waste policy. Consumer Brands believes these two proposals will advance the committee's efforts to bolster U.S. recycling rates



and help Americans achieve waste-free living. Looking ahead, we hope to be a resource for the committee and stand ready to assist you in any way we can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hewitt", written in a cursive style.

John Hewitt  
Vice President, Packaging  
Sustainability  
Consumer Brands Association

CC: Members of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce