



ASSOCIATION OF PLASTIC  
**RECYCLERS**

# Recycling Policy Round-up: 2024

A Look Back and a Look Ahead

December 12, 2024

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# Today's Team



**Kara Pochiro**  
VP Communications  
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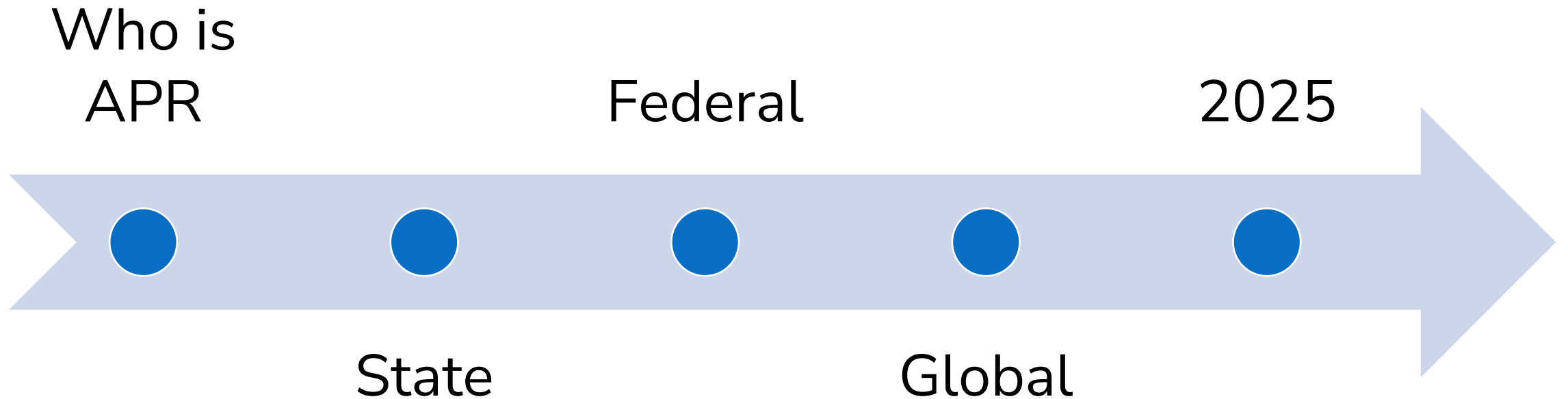
**Kate Bailey**  
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Associate Editor,  
Resource Recycling



# TODAY'S AGENDA



**CHAT QUESTION:  
WHAT'S YOUR TOP  
POLICY HIGHLIGHT  
FROM 2024?**



## Who is APR?

APR is an international non-profit and the only North American organization focused exclusively on improving recycling for plastics.



## What Do We Do?

Our mission is simple:  
**RECYCLE MORE PLASTICS**  
to reduce waste.





# Reclaimers and Recyclers are the CORE of APR



# APR Member Sampling

## RECLAIMERS/RECYCLERS



## AFFILIATES



[View all APR Members »](#)

Together, APR members span the entire value chain and shape the future of our industry.

- Reclaimers/Recyclers
- Brand Owners
- Retailers
- Converters
- Equipment Manufacturers
- Testing Laboratories
- Certifiers
- Label & Ink Manufacturers
- Resin Manufacturers
- Additives Manufacturers
- Researchers
- Technical Consultants
- And more!



# **NEW! Policy Hub on the APR Website**

[plasticsrecycling.org/  
policy-hub](https://plasticsrecycling.org/policy-hub)



How policies can improve recycling



Key policy priorities



Maps of what's happening



Charts of policy details



Custom services for APR members



# TOP 2024 HIGHLIGHT

# TOP 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



## MARISSA'S LIST

- Minnesota passing packaging EPR
- Circular Action Alliance (CAA) program plans
- EPA Facts and Figures updated release (soon)

## KATE'S LIST

- Minnesota EPR for packaging & EPR for boat wrap
- California: What's recyclable list, SB54 regulations; EPR for carpet and textiles
- CAA staffing and program plans



# US STATE POLICY

# STATE LEVEL ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

126 state-level bills relevant to recycling in 2024

TOPIC	# OF BILLS
EPR: paint, solar panels, packaging, construction debris, vapes, tires, carpet and household hazardous waste	28
Bans	22
Right to repair	22
Chemical recycling	7
Deposit return systems	15
Source reduction	9
PCR mandates	1
Labeling	3
Source reduction	1





# AUDIENCE POLL: ANSWER IN THE CHAT

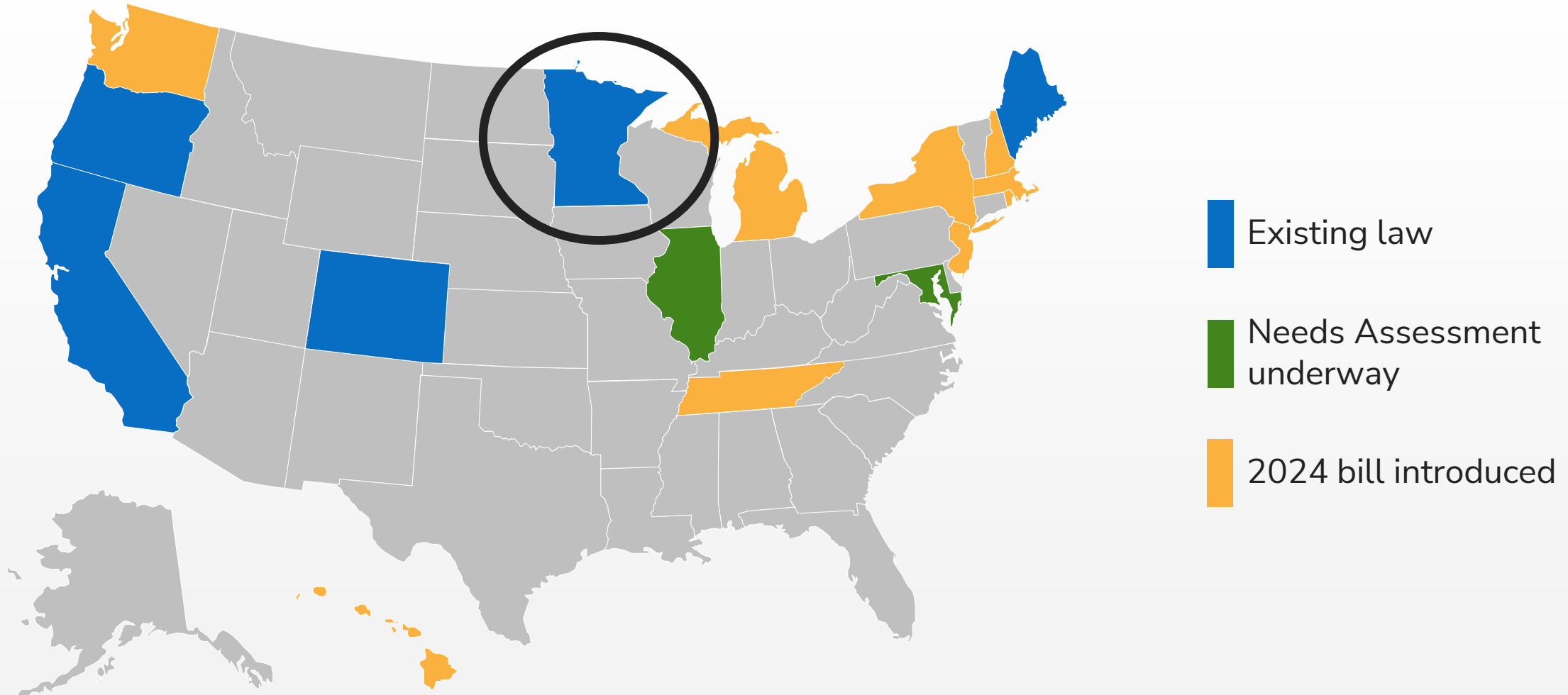
Which state-level policy is most important to you?

- EPR for packaging
- Source reduction or reuse targets
- Minimum recycled content standards
- Bans on plastics
- Chemicals of concern
- Labeling requirements
- Other



# EPR FOR PACKAGING IN US

October 2024



# EPR IMPLEMENTATION



## CALIFORNIA

- 200+ pages regulations
- CAA selected as PRO
- Covered materials list released



## COLORADO

- Approves medium scenario program goal of 58% recycling by 2035
- CAA solicitation on plan development



## MAINE

- Rules formally adopted
- RFP for PRO will be released September 2025



## OREGON

- Third CAA program plan
- Finalized rules
- Producer fees range from 1 cent/lb to \$2.98/lb



# MINIMUM RECYCLED CONTENT REGULATIONS

- **New Jersey:** law took effect, first for rigid plastic containers (non-food)
- **Washington:** issues first fines for non-compliance
- **Minnesota:** EPR laws includes requirements for PCR targets
- **Colorado:** CAA proposes PCR rates in CO: 10% for plastics, 30% for others (still TBD)
- **Global:** Questions on the use of chemical recycling technologies





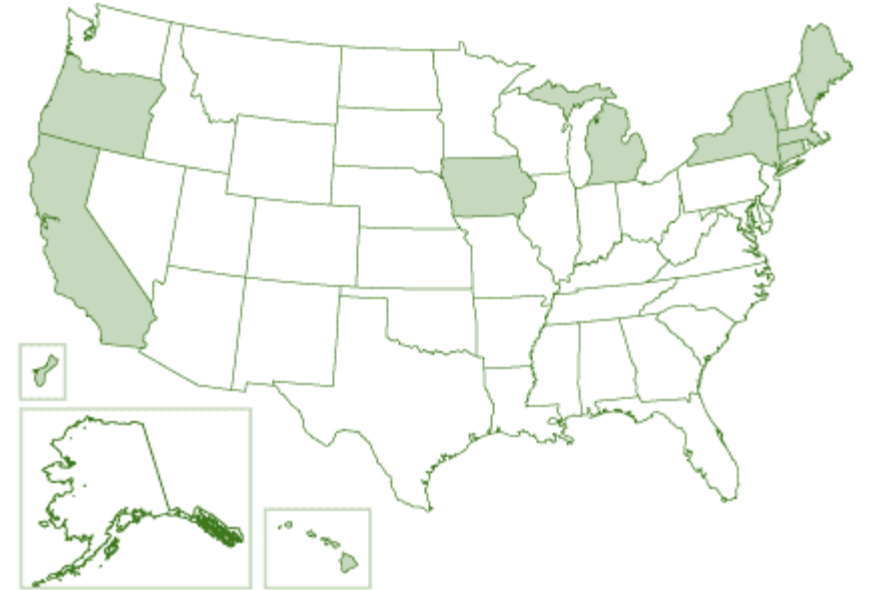
# BOTTLE DEPOSIT POLICIES

UPDATED

California, Maine

DISCUSSED

FL, HI, IL, MD, MI,  
NH, NJ, RI, VT,  
WA



EXISTING: CA, CT, HI, IA, MA, ME,  
MI, NY, OR, VT



# ADDITIONAL HOT POLICY TOPICS

Right to repair:

- Passed in Oregon and Colorado

Chemical recycling:

- AK, NY, NJ discussed classifying it as manufacturing
- ME passed law to regulate as solid waste
- WY becomes 25<sup>th</sup> state to call manufacturing
- NC discussed defining it as recycling
- Clarifications in EPR and PCR regulations

EPR for hard to  
recycle products:

- Batteries: IL, VT; Carpet: CA; Textiles: CA; Paint: IL, MD

Product bans:

- CA reusable bag ban
- Bags, single-use plastics, toiletries, PS, plastic straws and microbeads



# US FEDERAL LANDSCAPE

# AUDIENCE POLL: ANSWER IN THE CHAT

If you could wave your magic wand and **get one thing** from the new administration or new Congress, **what would it be?**





# 2024 CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

## INTRODUCED BILLS

- Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act
- REDUCE Act: fee on virgin plastic
- Recycling and Composting Accountability Act
- Recycling Infrastructure and Accessibility Act
- Plastic Pellet Free Waters Act
- Protecting Communities from Plastic Act
- Accelerating a Circular Economy for Plastics and Recycling Innovation Act

## COMMITTEE ACTION

- EPW hearings on plastic pollution



# 2024 US FEDERAL POLICY RECAP

- Historic levels of action
- Congress introduces dozens of bills, no progress
- Shift in US position in global plastics treaty
- GSA seeks to phase out single-use plastics
- EPA Safer Choice program requires 15% PCR for plastics packaging
- No updates on FTC Green Guides labeling
- Administration releases plastic pollution roadmap
- Initiatives continue in most major federal agencies & national labs



# GLOBAL LANDSCAPE

# CANADA

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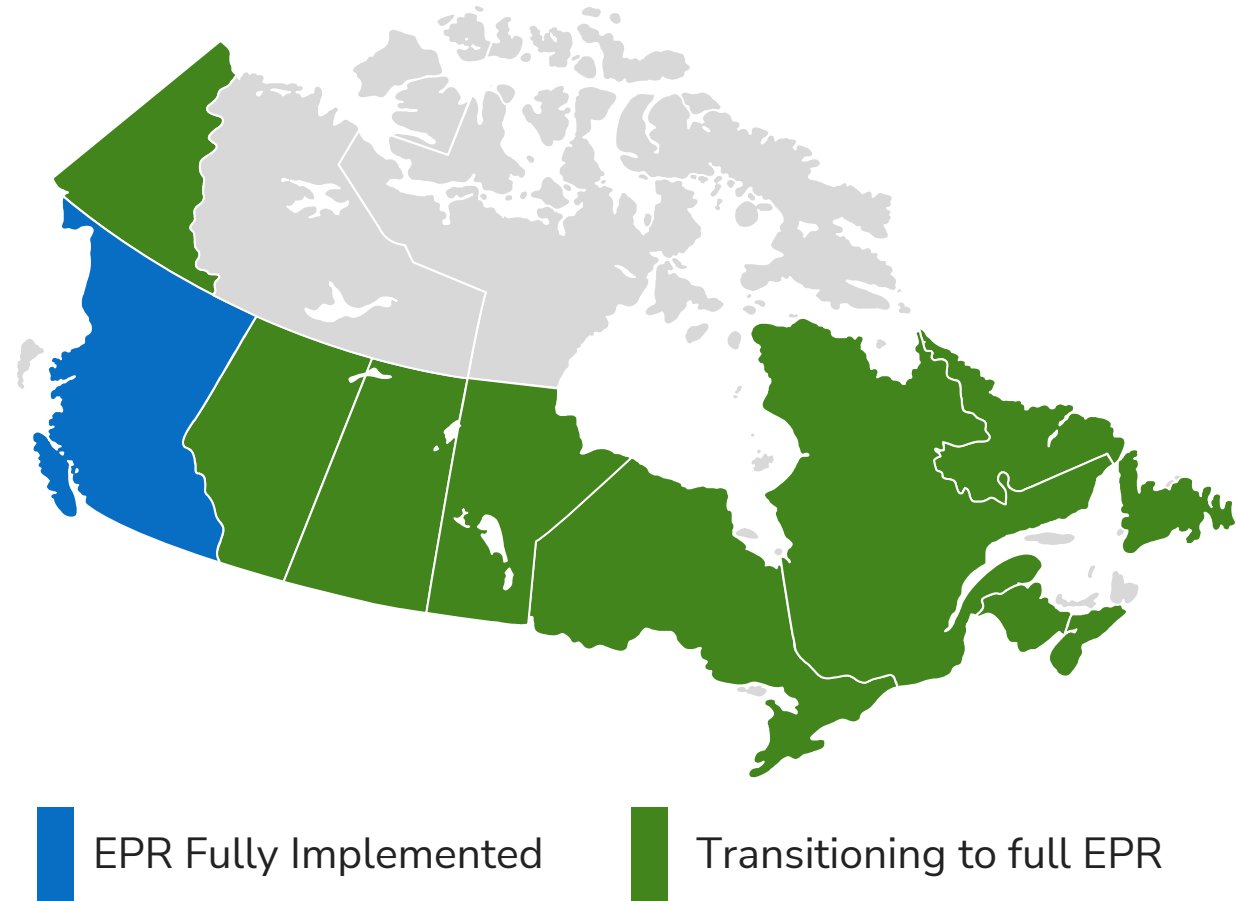
Federal registry for reporting plastics production through disposal

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Federal authority to ban plastics rejected in court; other efforts pending

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Transition to fully producer run EPR for packaging





# EU PACKAGING REGULATIONS (PPWR)

## Plastic recycling rates

- 55% by 2030 for plastic packaging
- 90% by 2030 for beverage containers

## Plastic recycled content rates

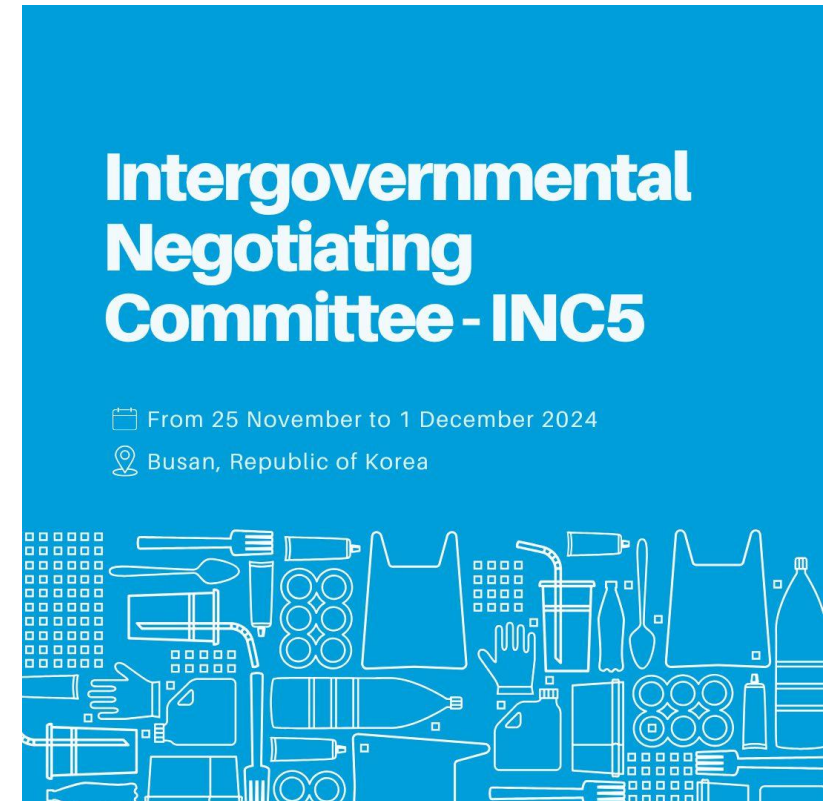
- 30% in beverage containers and PET packaging by 2030
- 10% in contact-sensitive packaging by 2030
- 35% in other plastics by 2030

## Reusable packaging

- 90% in transport packaging by 2040
- 25% in beverage packaging by 2040
- 40% in take-away packaging by 2040

# UN PLASTICS TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: WHAT'S NEXT?

- No agreement out of final scheduled talks in November 2024
- Likely talks in 2025
- Potential pathways forward:
  - Strong agreement with most countries
  - Minimal agreement with all countries
  - No agreement
  - Agreement outside of UN context
  - Others?



# LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025

# WHAT TO WATCH IN 2025



## MARISSA'S LIST

- Packaging EPR implementation in Oregon
- EPR harmonization among states
- More EPR laws in MD, WA, TN, other states
- Brands changing voluntary plastic sustainability goals
- Responsible end markets requirements



## KATE'S LIST

- Oregon EPR program launch
- Colorado finalizes PRO plan
- EPR for packaging in NY, WA, and ...
- Science on chemicals and health
- Traceability and certification standards
- Federal tax credits



**QUESTIONS?**





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# Thank you!



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