116th CONGRESS
FEDERAL RECYCLING LEGISLATION

OCTOBER 14, 2020

Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI)
Awareness of Recycling

- China
- Marine Plastics
- Media Attention - Recycling is Broken
- EPA & Congress
- COVID-19
• America Recycles Day
  • Recycling Summit
  • Challenge & Commitment
  • Exhibition

• National Recycling Strategy
• Public Service Advisories (COVID-19)
• SoS 1.0 White House Signing Ceremony
• CISA creates ‘essential’ categories
  • Solid waste management
  • Manufacturing supply chains
• Addressed residential recycling and plastics
  • Recycling has multiple sectors
  • Multiple “pressure points” in the residential systems
  • Markets are vital
  • Citizen education is key
    • Improved quality
    • Markets
    • Consistent supplies for manufacturing
RECYCLE Act (S.2941/H.R. 5906)

Authors:

- Senators Rob Portman, Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)
- Representatives Dean Phillips (D-MN) and Dave Joyce (R-OH)

Key Components:

- Provides $75M to EPA for public education and awareness regarding residential recycling. (ISRI was instrumental in developing this bill)

- Bi-partisan with no opposition
RECOVER Act (H.R. 5115)

Authors
• Representatives Raul Cardenas (D-CA) and Larry Buschon (R-IN)

Key Components:
• $500 Million for residential recycling collection & processing infrastructure
• No market development for collected/processed materials
• Little focus on public awareness and education to prevent contamination
• Environmental and much of manufacturing community opposes

• Bi-partisan, no Senate companion
Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act (S.4510/H.R. 5845)

• Authors:
  • Senator Tom Udall (D-NM), Jeff Merkley (D-OR) and Alan Lowenthal (D-CA)

• Key Components:
  • Bans plastic bags, establishes deposit fees and extended producer responsibility
  • Contains unrealistic goals such as 100% recycled content (for plastic bags that would be banned) and mandatory 100% collection rates

• No Republican support in either Chamber
Save our Seas Act 2.0 (S.1982/H.R.3508)

- Authors:
  - Senators Dan Sullivan (R-AK), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)
  - S.1982 and Suzanne Bonamici and Don Young (R-AK)

- Key Components:
  - Global approach
  - Marine Foundation
  - Domestic infrastructure to prevent marine plastics
  - Reports to Congress
  - Bi-partisan with no opposition
  - Passed Senate and House: needs conference