



“To promote a zero-waste society that advocates for **reducing waste, sustainably reusing resources and less landfill use.**”

February 22, 2024

House Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy Committee

RE: SF 3561 (Morrison); Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act established, and rulemaking authorized.

Dear Chair Hawj and Environment and Natural Resources Committee Members:

MRRA supports the goals of SF 3561, the Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act, to use an extended producer responsibility approach to address our waste challenges. SF 3561 will significantly reduce waste going to landfills by reducing packaging waste, increasing reusable packaging, and moving us beyond the stagnant recycling rates we have been seeing for many years.

We support a bill that requires producers of packaging and paper products to help solve the waste problems they have created and that we are left to manage, and that brings various members of the waste industry, local government, and community representatives to the table to help develop the solutions, with strong agency oversight and enforcement capacity to assure the producers follow through as required in SF 3561.

We encourage enhancing the language to ensure that producer responsibility organizations (PRO) interests do not conflict with the 30+ years of investments in infrastructure, operations, authority, and regulations set up by each county as delegated by the State of Minnesota.

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The MRRA is happy to provide additional information, resources, or discussion on this important topic. You can reach me at 218-770-2810 or cmcconn@ottertailcounty.gov.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CM' followed by a horizontal line.

Chris McConn, P.E.

MRRA Chair

<http://mnresourcerecovery.com/>