

**Resolution No. 03-22**  
**Date: December 13, 2021**

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, communities in Connecticut and across the nation are struggling to manage the rising cost of waste-disposal and recycling programs; and

**WHEREAS**, producers of packaging have little incentive to design packaging to minimize waste, reduce toxicity, or maximize recyclability, and no organized coordination exists between the producers of packaging and the municipalities that must dispose of or recycle the packaging; and

**WHEREAS**, in Europe and Canada producers of packaging have taken some or all responsibility for the management of post-consumer packaging, and as a result have greatly increased recycling rates and infrastructure investment, thereby creating jobs and reducing taxpayer costs; and

**WHEREAS**, after 2017 when China changed its import policies to severely restrict the contaminated and poorly sorted recyclables it would accept, the U.S. began shipping plastic and other forms of packaging to parts of Southeast Asia and Africa with poor recycling infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, many local governments are subjected to robust lobbying efforts at the state level that oppose actions to reduce generation of packaging; and

**WHEREAS**, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a strategy that requires the manufacturers to assume financial responsibility for the end of life management of their package and is currently used for e-waste, paint and mattresses, saving municipalities in CT millions of dollars in recycling costs;

**WHEREAS**, EPR legislation for packaging will level the playing field for manufacturers and require manufacturers to assume the cost of collection, transportation and processing of recyclables, saving the City of Middletown, and its residents, thousands of dollars. ,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN:**  
Approves to support federal and state passage of legislation for Extended Producer Responsibility for all forms of packaging and encourage continued discussions with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to ensure that this legislation represents the best interests of The City of Middletown and its residents.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** NONE

**Submitted by:** Councilman Eugene Nocera, Majority Leader  
Councilman Philip Pessina, Minority Leader

**COMMISSION REVIEW:** Resource Recycling Advisory Commission, December 7, 2021  
Public Works and Facilities Commission, December 8, 2021

**Status:** APPROVED

**By Common Council, City of Middletown**

**At its meeting held on: JANUARY 3, 2022**

***K: review/ resolution/ PW packaging law – RES 03-22 – 3 Jan 2022***