



FOODSERVICE PACKAGING  
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March 25, 2025

**Favorable with Amendments: Senate Bill 901 – AN ACT concerning Environment – Packaging Materials – Producer Responsibility Plans**

Dear Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce and House Environment and Transportation Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer feedback concerning Senate Bill 901 – *AN ACT concerning Environment – Packaging Materials – Producer Responsibility Plans* (SB 901), which we support with amendments.

Founded in 1933, the Foodservice Packaging Institute (FPI) is the leading authority on foodservice packaging in North America. FPI supports the responsible use of foodservice packaging, while advocating an open and fair marketplace for all materials. Our core members include raw material and machinery suppliers as well as packaging manufacturers, which represent approximately 90 percent of the industry. Additionally, a number of distributors and purchasers of foodservice packaging are part of FPI's affiliate membership.

The foodservice packaging industry is committed to reducing the impact of its products on the environment and is dedicated to increasing their recovery. FPI has several special interest groups that bring together the supply chain to develop and promote economically viable and sustainable recovery solutions for foodservice packaging. These special interest groups include the Paper Recovery Alliance, Plastic Recovery Group, Paper Cup Alliance and Foam Recycling Coalition. More information on these groups and their efforts can be found [here](#).

As part of our commitment to increasing the recovery of foodservice packaging, FPI is supportive of policy approaches that advance this effort through systems such as recycling and composting. With respect to extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs, it is our position that programs should be based on the principles of shared responsibility, fairness and system effectiveness and efficiency.

FPI appreciates the ongoing effort to develop an effective EPR framework in Maryland and the amendments that have been made to reflect several elements of recent laws and approaches to EPR in the United States. In addition to the current amendments, we have the recommendations detailed below.

We believe that the existing definition of "paper products" is extremely broad and may unintentionally include items beyond the intended scope of SB 901. To reduce ambiguity, we propose amending the definition of "paper products" to provide greater specificity, similar to the approach taken with packaging, to ensure that only the intended obligated covered materials are included.

Additionally, to promote fairness for obligated producers, an amendment is proposed for Section 9-2505 (E)(1)(II)(1) to establish a clear methodology for determining reimbursement rates for covered services related to covered materials, that excludes both exempt materials and materials from producers outside the program.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these comments. We appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the development of an informed and effective EPR approach in Maryland.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "CPatterson".

Carol Patterson  
Vice President, Government Relations  
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