## October 27, 2025 Re: Please Cosponsor S. 2110, the REUSE Act of 2025

Dear Senators,

As organizations committed to reducing plastic pollution, building the circular economy and saving natural resources, we urge you to cosponsor the Research for Environmental Uses and Sustainable Economies (REUSE) Act of 2025<sup>1</sup>. This bipartisan commonsense legislation would direct the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct a feasibility study on reuse and refill systems in different sectors, such as consumer packaging, personal care products, and wholesale shipping of retail goods.

Every day the equivalent of 2000 garbage trucks full of plastic waste<sup>2</sup> are released into the world's oceans and waterways. It is a global crisis that alters entire ecosystems, kneecaps our ability to fight climate change, and affects the health and livelihoods of millions of people. Of the 40 million tons of plastic waste generated in the U.S. in 2021, only 5% to 6% — or about two million tons — was recycled<sup>3</sup>. In response to this, more Americans are rejecting single-use plastic and looking to embrace reusable alternatives for packaging, foodware, and shipping. Reuse offers a pathway to systemic change, preventing the crisis from worsening and building a more sustainable economy. This can include reusable to-go containers, shampoo bottles, cleaning products or shipping boxes.

Reuse also delivers meaningful economic benefits. U.S. communities currently spend \$11.5 billion on litter cleanups each year, with food service packaging accounting for 67% of that cost.<sup>4</sup> Reuse systems reduce these costs while also creating jobs. Reuse programs can generate over 30 times more jobs<sup>5</sup> than disposal facilities, which is more than double the number created by recycling.

Importantly, the REUSE Act also directs the EPA to assess how local, state, and federal governments can support reuse and refill systems, and to evaluate workforce development opportunities. This critical data will help stakeholders harness the environmental benefits and economic potential of reuse and refill systems.

<u>Reusable packaging is a proven solution to the plastic pollution crisis</u>.<sup>6</sup> It offers the lowest carbon footprint of any packaging option, reduces costs for communities, and creates local jobs. This legislation offers a practical, bipartisan step toward protecting the environment, human health, and the economy at the same time.

We respectfully urge you to cosponsor the REUSE Act of 2025. Sincerely,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.merkley.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/REUSE-Act.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.unep.org/plastic-pollution

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.lastbeachcleanup.org/ files/ugd/dba7d7 9450ed6b848d4db098de1090df1f9e99.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://upstreamsolutions.org/reuse-vs-single-use-economics

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://upstreamsolutions.org/reuse-vs-single-use-economics

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://www.breakfreefromplastic.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Making-reuse-a-reality-report\_GPPC.pdf

## Sign-ons as of Oct. 27, 2025

5 Gyres Institute

**ACORN Partners in Education** 

A ZERO WASTE CULTURE

**ACS-Accelerate Climate Solutions** 

Ahimsa

Alaska Community Action on Toxics

Alliance for Mission-Based Recycling

Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments

American Bird Conservancy

Anacostia Riverkeeper

**Aquarium Conservation Partnership** 

Ascendance Sustainable Events

Association of Massachusetts Bird Clubs

Association of Oregon Recyclers

Atrium 916-Creative Innovation Center for Sustainability

**Austin Reuse Coalition** 

**B** Sustainable

Bainbridge Island Zero Waste

**Banyan Botanicals** 

Between the Waters

**Bird Conservation Network** 

Blue Heron Botanicals

Blue Ocean Warriors

**Bold Reuse** 

**Breast Cancer Prevention Partners** 

**Broward Clean Air** 

**Business Performance Improvement** 

**BYOCT** 

Cafeteria Victories

California Communities Against Toxics

California Product Stewardship Council

Center for Biological Diversity

Center for Coalfield Justice

Center for International Environmental Law

Center for Science in the Public Interest

Central Lakes College Natural Resources Club

Central Oregon Environmental Center

**Cherokee Concerned Citizens** 

Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) Action Fund

Circular Philadelphia

Clean Fairfax

Clean Miami Beach

Clean Water Action

Climate Cycle

Climate Reality Project - Chicago Metro Chapter

Climate Reality Project, North Broward and Palm Beach County, FL Chapter

Coalition for Outreach, Policy & Education (COPE) - Tompkins County

Coast to Cascades Bird Alliance

CupZero

**Debris Free Oceans** 

**Defend Our Health** 

Delaware Audubon

Design By Freedom, LLC.

Earth Ethics, Inc.

EARTHDAY.ORG

**ECHO Systems** 

Eco Lizard AZ LLC

**EcoAction Arlington** 

**Eco-Cycle** 

Elder Climate Action of the Twin Cities

Eldorado/285 Recycles

**Enlightened Solutions** 

**Environmental Paper Network North America** 

**Escape The Waste** 

Eureka Recycling

GearedForGreen

Glen Ellyn School District 41

Go Green Vernon Hills & Lincolnshire

Gradible

**Grazing Reform Project** 

Green Dolphin Project Global

GreenEduation.US

Greenpeace USA

**Habitat Recovery Project** 

Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate

Hilton Head Audubon

**Hispanic Access Foundation** 

Illinois Environmental Council

**Inland Ocean Coalition** 

Inner Loop Working Group

Institute for Local Self-Reliance

It's Easy Being Green

Just Zero

Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce

Leave No Trace- Cleaner California Coast Initiative

**Lexington Green Teams** 

Lexington Zero Waste Collaborative

Lynnhaven River NOW (LRNow)

Maine Resource Recovery Association (MRRA)

Mankato Area Zero Waste and Beyond Plastics Mankato Area

Marin Sanitary Service

Micah Six Eight Mission

Minnesota Zero Waste Coalition

Minnow Technologies

MN Coalition for Plastic Reduction

MT Plastic Free Missoula

Mukwa

Muuse

Nassau Hiking & Outdoor Club

National Aquarium

**National Recycling Coalition** 

National Stewardship Action Council

Nebraska Recycling Council

Nevada County Climate Action Now

New Hampshire Audubon

Next 100 Coalition

North Shore Unitarian Church Green Team

Northeast Metro Climate Action

Northern California Recycling Association

Northwest Arkansas Audubon Society

Ocean Conservancy

Ocean Conservation Research

Oceana

OGS Tournaments, LLC

**OKAPI** Reusables

Organizing for Plastic Alternatives

Oysterable Co. Ltd.

**Pacific Environment** 

Paddle Out Plastic

Palatine Cool Cities Environmental Team

**People Over Petro Coalition** 

People's Economic and Environmental Resiliency Group

Perpetual

Physician and Scientist Network Addressing Plastics and Health (P-SNAP)

Pittsburghers Against single Use Plastic (PASUP)

Plastic Free Marin

Plastic Pollution Coalition

Plastic Reduction Alliance

Preserve

r.World

Race to Zero Waste

Recirclable

Recycle Ann Arbor

Recycle Hawaii

Reduce Waste Chicago

Repair x Reuse WA

Responsible Alpha

**Rethink Waste Project** 

Reuse Alliance

Reuse Minnesota

Revino

Revolusation Inc.

**RNV Sustainability Consulting** 

Rockbridge Bird Club

**Rockbridge Conservation** 

Salem Audubon Society

San Antonio Bay Estuarine Waterkeeper

Sea of Life

Seven Generations Ahead

Shareable

**Sheffield Saves** 

South Jersey Artist Collective

South Shore Audubon Society

Southeast Iowa Sierra Club group

St Luke Presbyterian Church

Surfrider Foundation

Sustainable Finger Lakes

**Sustainable Sharon Coalition** 

Tamalpais NatureWorks

The Last Beach Cleanup

The Last Plastic Straw

Think Zero LLC

Town of Lloyd Environmental Conservation Council

**Tucson Climate Action Network** 

**Turtle Island Restoration Network** 

Uber-clean

**Untangling Plastics** 

Upstream

Valley Improvement Projects

Value Economy

Waste Management Society of UWSP

We ReUse

WeHateToWaste.com

Wellbeing Economy Alliance CA

West Marin Food Systems

WeUse Innovations Inc.

Wildbird Recovery, Inc.

Zero Waste Hawai'i Island

Zero Waste Sonoma

Zero Waste Strategies

Zero Waste Washington