



May 26, 2026

RE: Kaiser Aluminum's Support for HB 7911 Relating to Health and Safety- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging and Paper Act

Dear Members of the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee,

Thank you for your continued support of the U.S aluminum sector and the thousands of workers and businesses that rely on a strong, sustainable materials economy. Kaiser Aluminum Corporation appreciates the opportunity to share our perspective as you consider Rhode Island's Extended Producer Responsibility legislation. As a member of the Coalition of High-Performance Recycling (CHPR), we are writing in support of Rhode Island state EPR bill HB 7911.

A hybrid approach to EPR that incorporates strong beverage container collection mechanisms, including a recycling refund program—also known as Deposit Return Systems (DRS)—is proven to deliver significantly higher recycling rates for aluminum, plastic, and glass beverage containers. These systems can reduce litter by 80% or more while returning cleaner, high-quality recyclable material that manufacturers like Kaiser Aluminum rely on to support domestic production and lower-carbon supply chains.

An EPR framework that complements curbside recycling with effective beverage container recovery systems can help capture more valuable material, improve recycling economics, and strengthen end markets for recycled content. When these systems work together, beverage container recycling rates can rise to as high as 90%, ensuring that more infinitely recyclable aluminum remains in productive use rather than entering landfills. Strengthening aluminum recovery not only supports environmental goals but also helps advance a more resilient domestic manufacturing supply chain.

For Kaiser Aluminum Warrick- our rolled aluminum can sheet mill in Newburgh, IN- access to cleaner, high-quality recycled aluminum is essential to our business and to meeting customer expectations. A combined EPR-DRS program in Rhode Island state would help contribute to a more sustainable domestic supply of material within the U.S, that we can reuse again and again—supporting manufacturing, reducing waste, and reinforcing Rhode Island's leadership in a stronger circular economy in the U.S.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donna Kopecky".

Donna Kopecky
VP, Sustainability