

Postconsumer Recycled Content

APR POSITION: The APR supports mandatory postconsumer recycled content legislation.

Value: Recycled content legislation will increase the market demand for recycled plastics. The APR strongly supports legislation to enhance the quality, increase collection and supply, and expand market demand for postconsumer recycled plastics to augment and sustain recycled content initiatives.

Key Messages:

- The APR was the first plastics related organization to publicly support mandatory recycled content legislation in 2006.
- Recycled content legislation presents large market opportunities for plastics recyclers increasing domestic demand, jobs and investment.
- Mandated PCR content creates market demand, which in turn monetizes the entire waste and recycling management system
- Recycled content legislation should be introduced with corresponding legislation to increase supply to meet new demand at reasonable prices.
- Recycled content legislation should focus on assuring the source of recycled material is from domestic postconsumer waste streams.
- Percentages of mandated recycled content should follow a reasonable, ladder approach, with an increase over time, and different percentages for different resins based on existing infrastructure and current recycling rates.
- The technology exists to allow implementation of recycled content legislation in most applications.
- The packaging industry should focus on package design for recyclability to ease implementation.
- Legislation should address numerous packaging types and resins.

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