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# No Time to Waste/Solution for America's Broken Recycling System: United States House of Representatives Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change Hearing

07/14/2022

The Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change (“Subcommittee”) of the United States House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Committee held a hearing on June 30th titled:

*No Time to Waste: Solutions for America’s Broken Recycling System (“Hearing”)*

The *Hearing* provided an overview of various issues associated with recycling in the United States such as:

- Common recyclables
- Critical role of recycling in the United States economy
- Contributing 681,000 jobs
- \$37.8 billion in wages
- \$5.5 billion in tax revenue
- Municipal solid waste generated in the United States
- Disposition of municipal solid waste
- 23.6% recycled
- 8.5% composted
- 11.8% incinerated to generate electricity
- 50% landfilled
- Impact of the pandemic on recycling
- Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (bipartisan infrastructure law’s role)
- Authorities addressing recycling

The *Hearing* also discussed three pending bills:

- H.R. 8059 – Recycling and Composting Accountability Act
- H.R. 8183 – Recycling Infrastructure and Accessibility Act of 2022
- H.R. 1512 – Climate Leadership and Environmental Action for our Nation’s Future Act

*Hearing* witnesses included:

David Allaway

Senior Policy Analyst

Department of Environmental Quality

State of Oregon

Lynn Hoffman

Co-President of Eureka Recycling

National Coordinator of the Alliance of Mission Based Recyclers

Stephanie Erwin

Director of Circular Economy

American Sustainable Business Network

Yvette Arellano (they/them)

Founder and Executive Director

Fenceline Watch

William Johnson

Chief Lobbyist

Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.

Matt Seaholm

Chief Executive Officer

Plastics Industry Association

A link to the witnesses' written statements and Subcommittee Memorandum can be found [here](#).