

**Town of Burrillville Resolution  
In Support of Extended Producer Responsibility**

- WHEREAS,** Manufactured goods and packaging constitute approximately 75% of the materials managed by U.S municipalities, based on figures reported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and
- WHEREAS,** The municipal waste management system was established a century ago to manage far simpler and more homogenous wastes like ashes, food scraps and horse manure, rather than manufactured goods and packaging which dominates today's municipal waste; and
- WHEREAS,** Hazardous and hard-to-recycle product management costs are expected to increase substantially in the near future unless policy changes are made; and
- WHEREAS,** There are significant environmental and human health impacts associated with improper management of hazardous products; and
- WHEREAS,** Costs paid by citizens and local governments to manage discarded products are in effect subsidies to producers that enable and encourage producers to design products for disposal without regard to end-of-life product-management costs and hazards; and
- WHEREAS,** Extended Producer Responsibility (ERP) is an environmental policy approach in which producers accept responsibility for the end-of-life management of their products, so that those who produce and use products to bear the cost of recycling and responsible disposal; and
- WHEREAS,** When producers are responsible for ensuring that their products are reused or recycled responsibly, and when health and environmental costs are included in the product price there is an incentive to design products that are more durable, easier to repair and recycle, and less toxic; and
- WHEREAS,** Jobs in disassembly, reuse, repair and recycling are generated by EPR, offering significant local economic development opportunities; and
- WHEREAS,** The Rhode Island legislature has committed to achieving greenhouse gas emissions reductions, and EPR policies are important strategies for achieving this goal through reduction of manufacturing and disposal emissions; and
- WHEREAS,** The Burrillville Town Council supports statewide legislation to hold producers responsible for hazardous product discard management and other product waste management costs; and
- WHEREAS,** EPR legislation for discarded electronic waste has been passed in 18 states and New York City; and
- WHEREAS,** State law established a manufacturer financed system, similar to EPR, for the collection, recycling and reuse of certain electronic products; and
- WHEREAS,** Earlier this year, the Rhode Island General Assembly passed a joint resolution requesting the Department of Environmental Management to develop recommendations for establishing an EPR program.

**NOW, THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED**

That the Burrillville Town Council urges the Rhode Island General Assembly to enact comprehensive EPR legislation based on the *Framework Principals for Product Stewardship Policy*;

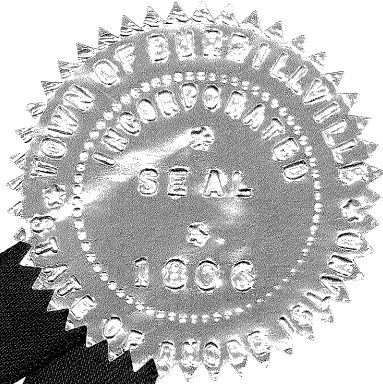
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

That the Burrillville Town Council does hereby request that the Department of Public Works develop recommendations for establishing an EPR program in Burrillville.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

That the Town of Burrillville include preferential producer take-back language in purchasing contracts where feasible.

Adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2010



Nancy F. Binns  
Nancy F. Binns, Council President

Wallace F. Lees  
Wallace F. Lees, Council Vice President

Robert A. Bishop  
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ATTEST:

Louise R. Phaneuf  
Louise R. Phaneuf, Town Clerk