



Printing & Graphics Association MidAtlantic

HB36 Environment – Packaging, Containers, and Paper Products – Producer Responsibility Opposition

The Printing & Graphics Association Mid-Atlantic respectfully opposes HB36. The printing & graphics industry in Maryland encompasses roughly 16,000 employees across 500 companies and is among the largest manufacturing sectors in the state. This legislation would increase costs to manufacturers which would then be passed on to our members, despite the paper industry leading the way in recycling. The vast majority of our members are small businesses facing extraordinary market challenges.

According to the most recent available data provided by the EPA, the paper industry is far and away the leader in recycling rates and landfill avoidance. As a percentage of generation, 68% of paper or paperboard products are ultimately recycled, with just 26% ending up in a landfill. Compare that to the 9% recycling rate for plastics, with 76% ending up in a landfill. When you look at paper container and packaging specifically, these rates are even better. 80% are recycled, with just a 15% landfill rate.

Due to this inequity between the paper industry compared to other recyclable materials, this legislation would create an unfair burden on our industry, which is already more than pulling its weight.

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