



February 23rd, 2022

Dear New York State Legislator,

We are writing on behalf of trade associations employing tens of thousands of New Yorkers to respectfully request the final budget agreement include language from S. 7891 (Mannion) which supports and promotes the increased adoption and use of advanced recycling technologies in New York State. Including this language in the final budget will further the state's environmental sustainability goals, create significant economic growth opportunities, and help establish the regulatory certainty needed for organizations that we represent to make investments in New York aimed to improve recycling processes and progress towards a more circular economy.

As background, advanced recycling refers to several different technologies that convert post-use plastics into their original chemical building blocks for the production of new plastics, waxes and other products. These technologies complement traditional mechanical recycling methods incorporating more recycled plastics into their products.

To date, fifteen other states have adopted policies that modernize laws and recognize advanced recycling technologies as manufacturing processes. **It is estimated that through advanced recycling, 877,000 tons of plastic products created from virgin resin could be replaced each year with feedstock from plastics that are currently being diverted into New York landfills.**

Indeed, converting just 25% of recoverable plastics in New York to plastic and advanced recycling feedstocks other products would support approximately 16 advanced recycling and recovery facilities generating an approximated \$502.4 million in increased economic output each year. It is for these reasons that private companies across the United States are already using advanced recycling to manufacture post-use plastics at a commercial scale into versatile mix of valuable new products.

More than \$7.5 billion in advanced recycling projects have been announced or are already operating in the United States, with the potential to divert 11.7 billion pounds of waste from landfills. Including advanced recycling legislation in the budget would open New York State to investment not only in the economy, but in a more sustainable future.

Of course, plastic products contribute to sustainability in a number of ways; via reduced production emission, light-weighted products resulting in lowered shipping emissions, sanitary packaging applications that reduce food waste and spoilage, lighter vehicles and products that promote energy and operational efficiencies in out buildings, homes and related infrastructure.

However, these benefits will be amplified through the promotion of infrastructure and technology designed to increase product circularity and post-use recycling.

In this vein, we see recycling technology playing an increasingly important role in improving recycling rates for plastics that currently do not have strong end markets; thus, enabling a more circular economy for a broader range of plastic products.

Circular economy for plastics will help New York reduce the amount of waste going to landfills oceans, and incinerators; conserve natural resources; develop more competitive recycling market; increase jobs, and tax revenues; combat climate change; and help to address inequity and environmental justice concerns.

Consequently, we encourage you to support advanced recycling as a means of moving New York State towards a higher degree of product circularity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

American Chemistry Council

Associated General Contractors of NYS

Berry Global

Brightmark

Buffalo Niagara Partnership

The Business Council of New York State

Braven Environmental

Flexible Packaging Association

Foodservice Packaging Institute

The Manufacturers Association of Central New York

New York State Chemistry Council

New York State Economic Development Council

Plastic Energy

Plastics Industry Association

Printing United Alliance

Sealed Air