



# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Extended Producer Responsibility Commission

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ADVISORY GROUP: ELECTRONICS

Monday, June 30, 2025 | 1–3 p.m.  
via Zoom



# Housekeeping

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- Please visit the Mural board (link is in the chat)
- Find your name and affiliation
- Make any necessary corrections or updates
- Type in your expertise, role, or perspective

# Housekeeping



# Introduction to EPR Commission

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- Established by Section 108 of Chapter 239 of the Acts of 2024
- The Commission's charge: "...recommend to the general court extended producer responsibility policies for the commonwealth"
- Including:
  - Recommendations on specific extended producer responsibility approaches and other strategies for paint, mattresses, electronics, lithium-ion batteries, plastics, and packaging
  - Proposed structures for collection, processing, and financial responsibility
  - Information on cost impacts
  - Waste reduction product and packaging incentives, and
  - Impacts on waste generation and contamination reduction
- Issue initial recommendations and related findings by **January 15, 2026**



# Introductions

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- **Jennifer Haugh**, Vice President of Planning and Customer Engagement, GreenerU, facilitator
- **John Beling**, Chair, Extended Producer Responsibility Commission, and Deputy Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
- **Greg Cooper**, Director, Hazardous and Solid Waste, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
- **John Fischer**, Deputy Director, Hazardous and Solid Waste, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
- **EPR Commissioners**
  - David Melly, Environmental League of Massachusetts
  - Catherine Ratte, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
  - Bill Rennie, Retailers Association of Massachusetts
  - Waneta Trabert, MassRecycle and City of Newton



# Introduction to advisory groups

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- Established at the May 21, 2025, meeting of the EPR Commission
- Charged with performing research and presenting findings to the Commission
- Meetings do not need to be held in accordance with Massachusetts open meeting law
- Advisory groups will meet at least twice
- Findings on electronics EPR should be completed by **Friday, August 29**, to be shared at the September 17 full Commission meeting
- Advisory groups may not consist of more than nine Commission members



## Meeting goals

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- Level set on past and present electronics EPR efforts in Massachusetts and the U.S.
- Brainstorm ideas, concerns, support, opposition
- Assign responsibilities for gathering additional information



# Meeting agenda

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- Presentations
- Clarifying questions
- Brainstorming
- Assignments



# Presentations

# Extended Producer Responsibility in Massachusetts Electronics Background

June 23, 2025

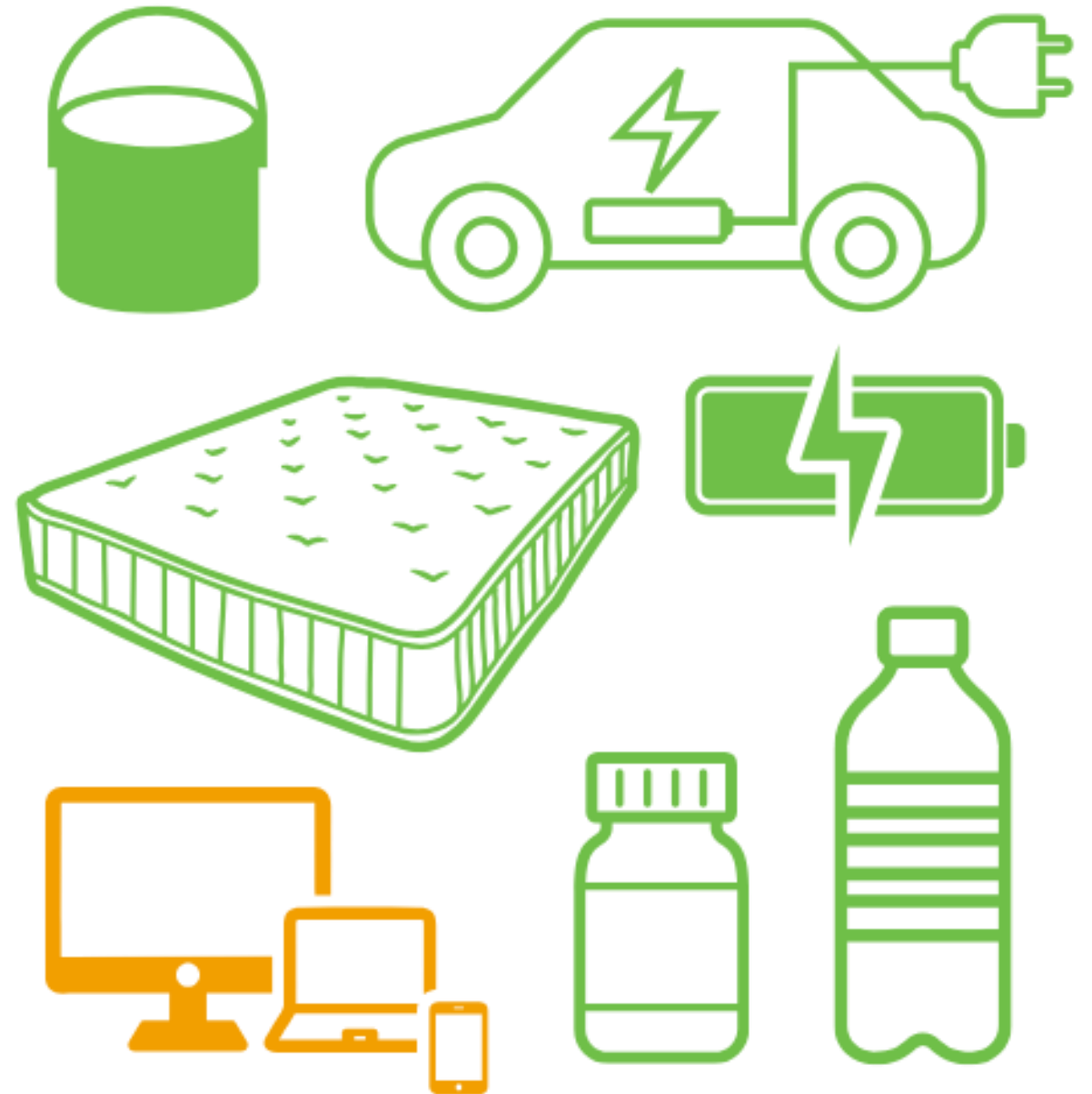


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# MA EPR BILLS 2025

## 7 products:

- Portable batteries
- EV batteries
- **Electronics (producer funded)**  
(current disposal ban on CRTs)
- Mattresses (2)
- Paint
- Packaging
- Pharmaceuticals  
(amendment to remove sunset)



**2000:** National dialogue hosted by US EPA—**PSI represented 20 states (as well as local governments)**

**2004-2010:** 23 states + D.C. enact producer funded EPR laws for electronics. Policy models developed in dialogue paved way for laws.

**Amendments** increased scope of covered products, addressed orphan products, and adjusted weight goal calculations. Later amendments added convenience standards and removed sunset dates.

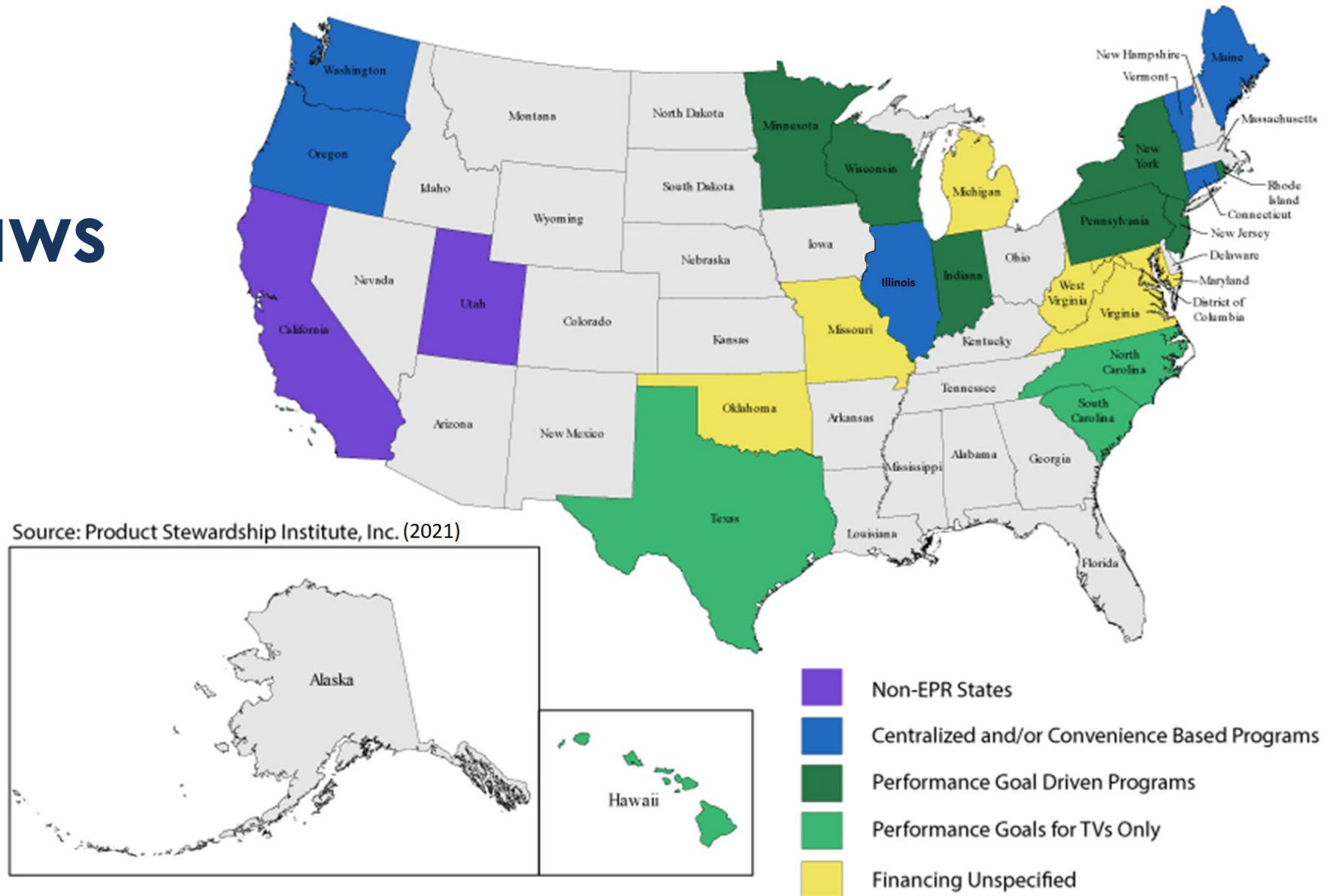
**2017:** IL's amended law shifts weight-based performance goals to convenience standards to drive collection & stabilize programs as electronics get lighter. Established “clearinghouse” for multiple PROs. PSI provided technical support.

**2023:** OR's amended law eliminated weight goals, replacing them with convenience standards; added covered products, and reduced agency role to align with other modern EPR programs. PSI provided technical support & facilitation.

**2025:** MN introduced amendment (not passed) to vastly increase scope. Bills introduced in AK & MA for new laws (not yet passed). PSI providing technical support in Alaska.

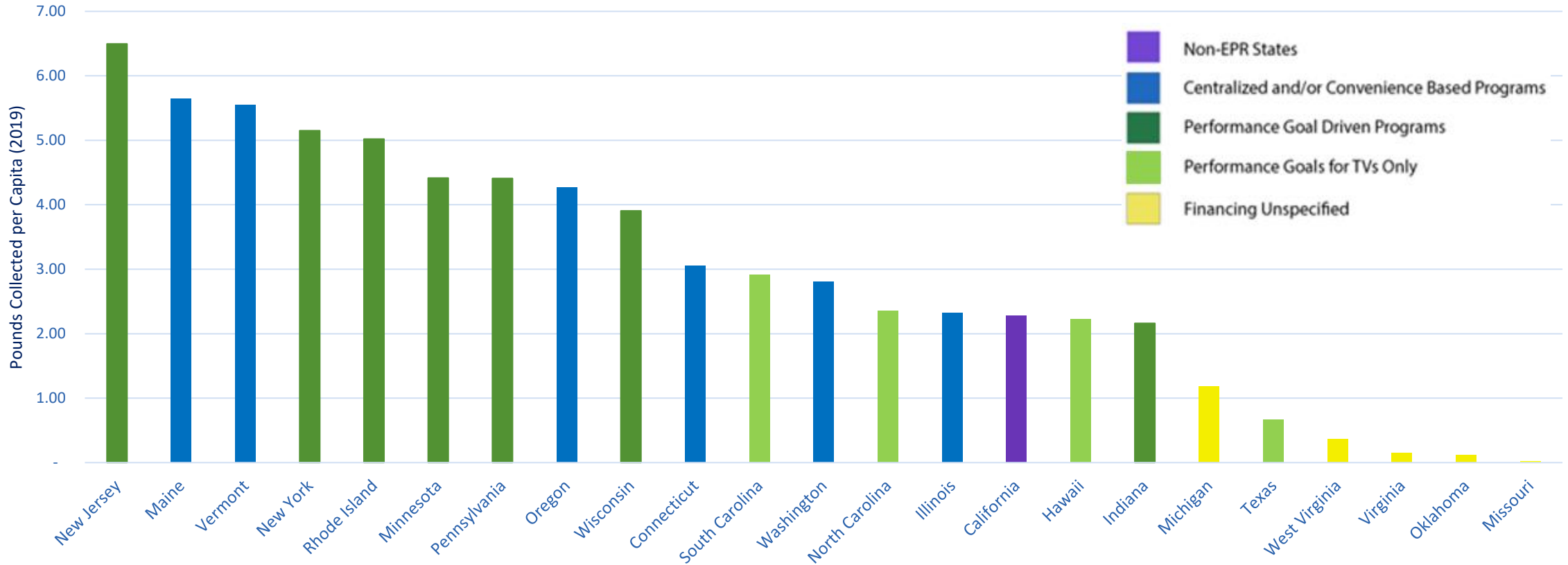
# Types of Electronics Recycling Laws in the U.S.

*All laws are producer funded and managed (to varying degrees) except California, which is consumer-funded and government-managed, and Utah, which does not specify funding and lacks most EPR elements. PSI considers these laws to be product stewardship but not EPR.*



# U.S. Electronics EPR Law Performance

Pounds of E-Waste Scrap Collected Per Capita, 2019 Data



**Note:** This chart presents available data on program performance but does not provide an apples-to-apples comparison as the covered products and entities (e.g., residents, businesses, schools, etc.) vary from state to state. Utah and Maryland did not report data in 2019.

# Typical Implementation Challenges of Older Laws

- Limited scope of products and participating entities does not meet need.
- Weight-based goals interpreted by producers as ceiling vs. floor—stopped paying, destabilized program funding; municipalities left to cover costs.
- As weight of electronic devices decreased, weight-based metrics are insufficient measure of program success.
- Lack of convenience standards limits access to services.
- Lack of a coordinating body (producer responsibility organization (PRO)/clearinghouse) contributes to statewide inconsistency of outreach & education & awareness.
- Inadequate program funding where no funding mechanism defined.



# Notable Amendments

- Shifted from weight-based goals to convenience goals (IL 2017).
- Established a clearinghouse for coordination among producers – “6 PROs” (IL 2017).
- Established or enhanced convenience and performance metrics (HI + SC 2022; WI 2024).
- Expanded scope of covered products (IL, HI, SC, RI, WI, OR, and others).
- Reduced agency role to align with modern EPR programs (OR 2023).



*The Consumer Technology Association (CTA) supported amendments in IL, OR, WI.*





# Notable EPR Bills: New Laws & Amendments

## Minnesota – Amendment

- Combines electronics and battery EPR laws.
- *Significantly* expands covered materials (like EU directive) much more than past amendments:
  - all devices with circuit board
  - all devices powered by plug or battery
  - all embedded and removable batteries



## Alaska and Massachusetts – New Programs

- Covers computers, TVs, monitors, peripherals, video consoles, and similar.
- Covers basic entities (residents, schools, small businesses).
- Convenience-based metric.
- Alaska is first new state with bill in a long time.



# Elements of Stable Electronics EPR Programs

<p><b>SCOPE</b> Comprehensive</p>	<p><b>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</b> Brands, Manufacturers, Importers</p>	<p><b>STEWARDSHIP ORG</b> Individual or Multiple; PRO/coordinating body</p>	<p><b>COVERED ENTITIES</b> Residents, schools, small businesses, gov'ts</p>
<p><b>FUNDING</b> Producer funded by market share</p>	<p><b>PERFORMANCE GOALS</b> Minimum goals based on prior year or formula</p>	<p><b>CONVENIENCE</b> Min. based on population &amp; distance; min current convenience level</p>	<p><b>RECYCLER CERTIFICATION</b> e-Stewards or R2 certification required</p>
<p><b>OPERATING STANDARDS</b> Materials mgt hierarchy; authority regulates; all eligible collection sites can participate.</p>	<p><b>STEWARDSHIP PLAN</b> Describes how program will be implemented to meet statute</p>	<p><b>OUTREACH EDUCATION</b> Campaign reaches all residents; education materials for retailers; outreach evaluation</p>	<p><b>ANTI-TRUST</b> Aligns with other EPR laws; no negative effect on market competition</p>
<p><b>PREEMPTION</b> No pre-emption of existing local laws</p>	<p><b>DISPOSAL BAN</b> Phased-in disposal ban</p>	<p><b>PENALTIES &amp; ADMIN FEE</b> Sales ban + enforcement penalties; Producers cover agency oversight costs</p>	<p><b>AUDIT &amp; REPORTING</b> Annual program audit, including outcomes</p>



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# Clarifying questions

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- What questions do you have for the presenters?

# Brainstorming



## Next steps

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- Advisory group to send DEP/GreenerU additional background data and research on electronics
- Second electronics advisory group meeting to be scheduled for late July or beginning of August
- Draft background document on electronics to share with the Commission is due **Friday, August 29**
- Initial EPR Commission meeting on electronics is September 17, 2025, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



# Next meeting and adjourn

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Next meeting:

## **BATTERIES**

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Agenda, Zoom link, and reading materials will be available at least one week prior to the meeting.