



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Extended Producer Responsibility Commission

MEETING 7

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 | 1–4 p.m.
100 Cambridge Street, 2nd floor conference room | Boston
and via Zoom

Housekeeping



Housekeeping: roll call

Member	Agency / organization
CHAIR: John Beling	Deputy Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Josie Ahlberg	Senior Legislative Analyst, Mass Municipal Association
Rep. Christine Barber	House Chair, Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Appointee, Massachusetts House of Representatives
Sen. Mike Barrett	Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Energy, and Utilities
Sharon Byrne Kishida	Nominee, Senate Minority Leader
Kris Callahan	Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Leigh-Anne Cole	Executive Director, Community Action Works
Jose Delgado	Arise for Social Justice
Janet Domenitz	Executive Director, MassPIRG
Lew Dubuque	Vice President, Northeast Chapter, National Waste and Recycling Association
Magda Garncarz	Vice President of Government Affairs, Associated Industries of Massachusetts
Sarah Kalish	Executive Office of Economic Development
David Melly	Legislative Director, Environmental League of Massachusetts
Conor O'Shaughnessy	Budget Director and Environmental Policy Analyst, Office of Representative Bradley Jones, House Minority Leader
Catherine Ratte	Director, Land Use and Environment Department, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
Bill Rennie	Senior Vice President, Retailers Association of Massachusetts
Neil Rhein	Executive Director, Keep Massachusetts Beautiful
Waneta Trabert	Vice President, MassRecycle
Tracy Triplett	Senior Enforcement Counsel, Office of Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell
Abbie Webb	Vice President of Sustainability, Casella Waste Management



Housekeeping: staff and consultants

Staff/consultant	Organization
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
Courtney Rainey	Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Government Affairs, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Julie McNeill	Attorney, Bureau of Air and Waste, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Jennifer Haugh	Vice President of Planning, GreenerU



Review of meeting goals and agenda

Goals

- Roll call, approve agenda, and minutes
- Vote on electronics EPR recommendation
- Vote on plastics and packaging EPR recommendation
- Provide an opportunity for public input on the above
- Advance final recommendations and background materials to the Legislature
- Dissolve Commission

Agenda

- Roll call
- Approval of agenda and minutes
- Review of remaining steps
- Discussion on electronics EPR recommendation based on previous scale of agreement vote / live-edit recommendation language
- Vote on final electronics EPR recommendation language
- Take a temperature check on proposed packaging EPR recommendation and discuss / live-edit recommendation language
- Public input
- Vote on final recommendations and background materials package to the Legislature
- Vote to dissolve Commission



Approval of agenda and minutes

- Adopt December 9 meeting agenda
- Adopt October 29 meeting minutes
 - Proposed changes to October 29 meeting minutes: none submitted



EPR Commission process update

	paint	mattresses	batteries	electronics	packaging
temperature check	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jun 18, 2025		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jul 16, 2025	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oct 29, 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> Oct 29, 2025
final vote	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jun 18, 2025	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sep 17, 2025	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oct 29, 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> Dec 9, 2025	<input type="checkbox"/> Dec 9, 2025

Electronics EPR recommendation



EPR Commission recommendation on batteries

The Commission endorses enactment of legislation to establish an extended producer responsibility program for electronics. The Commission recommends the development and implementation of a program that aligns with existing programs in other states to the greatest extent possible.

The Commission acknowledges proposed electronics EPR legislation under consideration before the Massachusetts legislature at the time of this recommendation—H.1015 and S.653—but does not endorse any specific bill.

Specific recommendations on elements to include in electronic EPR legislation are as follows:

Covered products	Computers, laptops, tablets, monitors, televisions, printers, computer peripherals; in 2026 to include fax machines, DVD players, VCRs, portable music players, game consoles, digital converter boxes, cable/satellite receivers, scanners, small-scale servers, routers, modems
Covered entities	Households, schools, government, small business
Performance goal	Convenience standard and target reduction of electronics in the waste stream
Collection/recycling service	Must include municipal electronics collection points
Financial structure	No fee to covered entity. Funding covered by producer based on market share of total cost, including orphaned electronics.
Recycling standards	Entities processing electronics on behalf of producers must have E-stewards, R2 certification or equivalent
Outreach and education	Comprehensive outreach and education plan by producers

Other recommended initiatives to consider

Although most electronic EPR laws do not include issues related to right-to-repair, several states (California, Connecticut, New York, Oregon) have passed right-to-repair legislation or have legislation pending. A right-to-repair law would make extending the life of existing electronics easier by increasing consumer and repair shops' access to necessary parts, tools, and documentation.



Temperature check on electronics EPR recommendation

SCALE OF AGREEMENT				
ADAPTED FROM KANER ET AL.				
1	2	3	4	5
WHOLE-HEARTEDLY AGREE	AGREEMENT WITH A MINOR POINT OF CONTENTION	SUPPORT WITH RESERVATION	MORE DISCUSSION NEEDED	SERIOUS DISAGREEMENT
"I really like it"	"Not perfect but it's pretty good"	"I could live with it"	"There are small concerns to discuss before I could support"	"I am not on board with this"
VOTE BELOW				



Temperature check on electronics EPR recommendation

Member	Agency / organization	Scale of agreement vote
CHAIR: John Beling	Deputy Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection	1
Rep. Christine Barber	House Chair, Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Appointee, Massachusetts House of Representatives	n/a
Sen. Mike Barrett	Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Energy, and Utilities	n/a
Sharon Byrne Kishida	Nominee, Senate Minority Leader	3
Kris Callahan	Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health	2
Leigh-Anne Cole	Executive Director, Community Action Works	n/a
Jose Delgado	Arise for Social Justice	2
Janet Domenitz	Executive Director, MassPIRG	3
Lew Dubuque	Vice President, Northeast Chapter, National Waste and Recycling Association	2
Magda Garncarz	Vice President of Government Affairs, Associated Industries of Massachusetts	4
Sarah Kalish	Executive Office of Economic Development	3
David Melly	Legislative Director, Environmental League of Massachusetts	2
Conor O'Shaughnessy	Budget Director and Environmental Policy Analyst, Office of Representative Bradley Jones, House Minority Leader	3
Andrew Potter	Chair, Select Board, Town of West Stockbridge	n/a
Catherine Ratte	Director, Land Use and Environment Department, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	2
Bill Rennie	Senior Vice President, Retailers Association of Massachusetts	5
Neil Rhein	Executive Director, Keep Massachusetts Beautiful	2
Waneta Trabert	Vice President, MassRecycle	2
Tracy Triplett	Senior Enforcement Counsel, Office of Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell	2
Abbie Webb	Vice President of Sustainability, Casella Waste Management	2



Electronics recommendation: suggested edits

The Commission endorses enactment of legislation to establish an extended producer responsibility program for electronics. The Commission recommends the development and implementation of a program that aligns with existing programs in other states to the greatest extent possible.

The Commission acknowledges proposed electronics EPR legislation under consideration before the Massachusetts legislature at the time of this recommendation—H.1015 and S.653—but does not endorse any specific bill.

Specific recommendations on elements to **consider** in electronic EPR legislation are as follows:

Covered products	Year 1: Computers, laptops, tablets, monitors, televisions, printers, computer peripherals, cell phones ; Year 2: fax machines, DVD players, VCRs, portable music players, video game consoles, digital converter boxes, cable/satellite receivers, scanners, small-scale servers, routers, modems
Covered entities	Households, public schools, government, small business or restrict number of units to return
Performance goal	Convenience standard and target reduction of electronics in the waste stream
Collection/recycling service	Must allow municipal electronics collection points to opt in
Financial structure	No fee to covered entities. Funding covered by producer based on market share of total cost, including orphaned electronics.
Recycling standards	Entities processing electronics on behalf of producers must have E-stewards, R2 certification or equivalent
Outreach and education	Comprehensive statewide outreach and education plan by producers

Other recommended initiatives to consider

Although most electronic EPR laws do not include issues related to right-to-repair, several states (California, Connecticut, New York, Oregon) have passed right-to-repair legislation or have legislation pending. A right-to-repair law would make extending the life of existing electronics easier by increasing consumer and repair shops' access to necessary parts, tools, and documentation.



Public comment: electronics

Thank you for your interest in participating in today's EPR Commission meeting.

Please state your name and affiliation clearly for the record and keep your comments succinct (under three minutes).

Written comments may be submitted through the EPR Commission website:
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/extended-producer-responsibility-commission>



Vote on revised electronics EPR recommendation

Member	Agency / organization	Vote (yea, nay)
CHAIR: John Beling	Deputy Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection	yea
Josie Ahlberg	Senior Legislative Analyst, Mass Municipal Association	yea
Rep. Christine Barber	House Chair, Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Appointee, Massachusetts House of Representatives	n/a
Sen. Mike Barrett	Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Energy, and Utilities	n/a
Sharon Byrne Kishida	Nominee, Senate Minority Leader	yea
Kris Callahan	Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health	yea
Leigh-Anne Cole	Executive Director, Community Action Works	yea
Jose Delgado	Arise for Social Justice	yea
Janet Domenitz	Executive Director, MassPIRG	n/a
Lew Dubuque	Vice President, Northeast Chapter, National Waste and Recycling Association	yea
Sam Larson for Magda Garncarz	Vice President of Government Affairs, Associated Industries of Massachusetts	nay
Sarah Kalish	Executive Office of Economic Development	yea
David Melly	Legislative Director, Environmental League of Massachusetts	yea
Conor O'Shaughnessy	Budget Director and Environmental Policy Analyst, Office of Representative Bradley Jones, House Minority Leader	yea
Catherine Ratte	Director, Land Use and Environment Department, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	yea
Bill Rennie	Senior Vice President, Retailers Association of Massachusetts	nay
Neil Rhein	Executive Director, Keep Massachusetts Beautiful	yea
Waneta Trabert	Vice President, MassRecycle	yea
Tracy Triplett	Senior Enforcement Counsel, Office of Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell	yea
Abbie Webb	Vice President of Sustainability, Casella Waste Management	yea

Plastics/packaging EPR recommendation



Draft EPR Commission recommendation on packaging EPR

The Commission endorses the concept of EPR for plastics and packaging. Due to the vast amount of technical information and expanded stakeholder engagement needed to advance such an initiative, the Commission recommends that MassDEP be charged with establishing a subcommittee of its Solid Waste Advisory Committee to further discuss EPR for plastics and packaging and be provided the necessary resources to pursue a needs assessment, which will help determine how EPR for plastics and packaging could have a meaningful impact on advancing material recovery in the Commonwealth.



Temperature check on packaging EPR recommendation

SCALE OF AGREEMENT				
ADAPTED FROM KANER ET AL.				
1	2	3	4	5
WHOLE-HEARTEDLY AGREE	AGREEMENT WITH A MINOR POINT OF CONTENTION	SUPPORT WITH RESERVATION	MORE DISCUSSION NEEDED	SERIOUS DISAGREEMENT
"I really like it"	"Not perfect but it's pretty good"	"I could live with it"	"There are small concerns to discuss before I could support"	"I am not on board with this"
VOTE BELOW				



Temperature check on packaging EPR recommendation

Member	Agency / organization	Scale of agreement
CHAIR: John Beling	Deputy Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection	2
Josie Ahlberg	Senior Legislative Analyst, Mass Municipal Association	2
Rep. Christine Barber	House Chair, Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Appointee, Massachusetts House of Representatives	n/a
Sen. Mike Barrett	Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Energy, and Utilities	n/a
Sharon Byrne Kishida	Nominee, Senate Minority Leader	4
Kris Callahan	Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health	2
Leigh-Anne Cole	Executive Director, Community Action Works	3
Jose Delgado	Arise for Social Justice	4
Janet Domenitz	Executive Director, MassPIRG	n/a
Lew Dubuque	Vice President, Northeast Chapter, National Waste and Recycling Association	5
Magda Garncarz	Vice President of Government Affairs, Associated Industries of Massachusetts	5
Sarah Kalish	Executive Office of Economic Development	4
David Melly	Legislative Director, Environmental League of Massachusetts	5
Conor O'Shaughnessy	Budget Director and Environmental Policy Analyst, Office of Representative Bradley Jones, House Minority Leader	2
Catherine Ratte	Director, Land Use and Environment Department, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	3
Bill Rennie	Senior Vice President, Retailers Association of Massachusetts	5
Neil Rhein	Executive Director, Keep Massachusetts Beautiful	n/a
Waneta Trabert	Vice President, MassRecycle	3
Tracy Triplett	Senior Enforcement Counsel, Office of Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell	2
Abbie Webb	Vice President of Sustainability, Casella Waste Management	4



Packaging EPR recommendation: suggested edits

The Commission **recommends to explore further** the concept of EPR for plastics and **other** packaging. Due to the vast amount of technical information and expanded stakeholder engagement needed to advance such an initiative, the Commission recommends that MassDEP be charged with establishing a subcommittee of its Solid Waste Advisory Committee to further **investigate** EPR for plastics and **other** packaging, and **that the legislature appropriate the necessary resources to complete** a needs assessment **within two years of appropriation**, which will **provide data to** determine how/**whether** EPR for plastics and **other** packaging could have a meaningful impact on advancing material recovery **and waste reduction** in the Commonwealth. **Consideration should be given to the scope of covered materials. The subcommittee composition should represent relevant stakeholder interests and subject matter expertise.**

The Commission acknowledges proposed plastics and other packaging needs assessment legislation under consideration before the Massachusetts Legislature at this time—S.570—but does not endorse any specific bill.



Temperature check on revised packaging EPR recommendation

Member	Agency / organization	Scale of agreement
CHAIR: John Beling	Deputy Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection	1
Josie Ahlberg	Senior Legislative Analyst, Mass Municipal Association	1
Rep. Christine Barber	House Chair, Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Appointee, Massachusetts House of Representatives	n/a
Sen. Mike Barrett	Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Energy, and Utilities	n/a
Sharon Byrne Kishida	Nominee, Senate Minority Leader	2
Kris Callahan	Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health	2
Leigh-Anne Cole	Executive Director, Community Action Works	2
Jose Delgado	Arise for Social Justice	2
Janet Domenitz	Executive Director, MassPIRG	n/a
Lew Dubuque	Vice President, Northeast Chapter, National Waste and Recycling Association	2
Magda Garncarz	Vice President of Government Affairs, Associated Industries of Massachusetts	3
Sarah Kalish	Executive Office of Economic Development	2
David Melly	Legislative Director, Environmental League of Massachusetts	2
Conor O'Shaughnessy	Budget Director and Environmental Policy Analyst, Office of Representative Bradley Jones, House Minority Leader	3
Catherine Ratte	Director, Land Use and Environment Department, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	2
Bill Rennie	Senior Vice President, Retailers Association of Massachusetts	4
Neil Rhein	Executive Director, Keep Massachusetts Beautiful	2
Waneta Trabert	Vice President, MassRecycle	2
Tracy Triplett	Senior Enforcement Counsel, Office of Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell	2
Abbie Webb	Vice President of Sustainability, Casella Waste Management	2



Public comment: packaging

Thank you for your interest in participating in today's EPR Commission meeting.

Please state your name and affiliation clearly for the record and keep your comments succinct (under three minutes).

Written comments may be submitted through the EPR Commission website:
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/extended-producer-responsibility-commission>

Bio break: 10 minutes



Vote on revised packaging EPR recommendation

Member	Agency / organization	Vote (yea, nay)
CHAIR: John Beling	Deputy Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection	yea
Josie Ahlberg	Senior Legislative Analyst, Mass Municipal Association	yea
Rep. Christine Barber	House Chair, Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Appointee, Massachusetts House of Representatives	n/a
Sen. Mike Barrett	Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Energy, and Utilities	n/a
Sharon Byrne Kishida	Nominee, Senate Minority Leader	yea
Kris Callahan	Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health	abstain
Leigh-Anne Cole	Executive Director, Community Action Works	yea
Jose Delgado	Arise for Social Justice	yea
Janet Domenitz	Executive Director, MassPIRG	n/a
Lew Dubuque	Vice President, Northeast Chapter, National Waste and Recycling Association	yea
Magda Garncarz	Vice President of Government Affairs, Associated Industries of Massachusetts	yea
Sarah Kalish	Executive Office of Economic Development	abstain
David Melly	Legislative Director, Environmental League of Massachusetts	yea
Conor O'Shaughnessy	Budget Director and Environmental Policy Analyst, Office of Representative Bradley Jones, House Minority Leader	yea
Catherine Ratte	Director, Land Use and Environment Department, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	yea
Bill Rennie	Senior Vice President, Retailers Association of Massachusetts	yea
Neil Rhein	Executive Director, Keep Massachusetts Beautiful	yea
Waneta Trabert	Vice President, MassRecycle	yea
Tracy Triplett	Senior Enforcement Counsel, Office of Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell	abstain
Abbie Webb	Vice President of Sustainability, Casella Waste Management	yea

Final deliverable to Legislature



Vote on sending final package to Legislature

Suggested language:

The Massachusetts Extended Producer Responsibility Commission approves the delivery of its final set of recommendations and background documentation to the Massachusetts Legislature, which shall include minor clarifying edits and updates on final vote tallies and updated recommendation language from the December 9, 2025, EPR Commission meeting.



Vote on delivering final package to Legislature

Member	Agency / organization	Vote (yea, nay)
CHAIR: John Beling	Deputy Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection	yea
Josie Ahlberg	Senior Legislative Analyst, Mass Municipal Association	yea
Rep. Christine Barber	House Chair, Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Appointee, Massachusetts House of Representatives	n/a
Sen. Mike Barrett	Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Energy, and Utilities	n/a
Sharon Byrne Kishida	Nominee, Senate Minority Leader	yea
Kris Callahan	Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health	yea
Leigh-Anne Cole	Executive Director, Community Action Works	yea
Jose Delgado	Arise for Social Justice	yea
Janet Domenitz	Executive Director, MassPIRG	n/a
Lew Dubuque	Vice President, Northeast Chapter, National Waste and Recycling Association	yea
Magda Garncarz	Vice President of Government Affairs, Associated Industries of Massachusetts	yea
Sarah Kalish	Executive Office of Economic Development	yea
David Melly	Legislative Director, Environmental League of Massachusetts	yea
Conor O'Shaughnessy	Budget Director and Environmental Policy Analyst, Office of Representative Bradley Jones, House Minority Leader	yea
Catherine Ratte	Director, Land Use and Environment Department, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	yea
Bill Rennie	Senior Vice President, Retailers Association of Massachusetts	yea
Neil Rhein	Executive Director, Keep Massachusetts Beautiful	yea
Waneta Trabert	Vice President, MassRecycle	yea
Tracy Triplett	Senior Enforcement Counsel, Office of Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell	yea
Abbie Webb	Vice President of Sustainability, Casella Waste Management	yea

Dissolving the EPR Commission



Vote on dissolving the EPR Commission

Suggested language:

The Massachusetts Extended Producer Responsibility Commission shall be dissolved 30 days after submitting its final report to the Legislature.



Vote on dissolving the EPR Commission

Member	Agency / organization	Vote (yea, nay)
CHAIR: John Beling	Deputy Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection	yea
Josie Ahlberg	Senior Legislative Analyst, Mass Municipal Association	yea
Rep. Christine Barber	House Chair, Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Appointee, Massachusetts House of Representatives	n/a
Sen. Mike Barrett	Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Energy, and Utilities	n/a
Sharon Byrne Kishida	Nominee, Senate Minority Leader	yea
Kris Callahan	Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health	yea
Leigh-Anne Cole	Executive Director, Community Action Works	yea
Jose Delgado	Arise for Social Justice	yea
Janet Domenitz	Executive Director, MassPIRG	n/a
Lew Dubuque	Vice President, Northeast Chapter, National Waste and Recycling Association	yea
Magda Garncarz	Vice President of Government Affairs, Associated Industries of Massachusetts	yea
Sarah Kalish	Executive Office of Economic Development	yea
David Melly	Legislative Director, Environmental League of Massachusetts	yea
Conor O'Shaughnessy	Budget Director and Environmental Policy Analyst, Office of Representative Bradley Jones, House Minority Leader	yea
Catherine Ratte	Director, Land Use and Environment Department, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	yea
Bill Rennie	Senior Vice President, Retailers Association of Massachusetts	yea
Neil Rhein	Executive Director, Keep Massachusetts Beautiful	yea
Waneta Trabert	Vice President, MassRecycle	yea
Tracy Triplett	Senior Enforcement Counsel, Office of Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell	yea
Abbie Webb	Vice President of Sustainability, Casella Waste Management	yea

Next steps



Next steps

- DEP/GreenerU to update document containing the full suite of product categories, recommendations, and background information immediately following the December 9, 2025, Commission meeting
- DEP to send the EPR Commission's final suite of product categories, recommendations, and background materials to the Massachusetts Legislature no later than January 15, 2026

Adjourn