

## **New York City Council**

### **Memorandum in Support of Resolution**

This memorandum is authored by the sponsor and explains the need for the resolution referenced below, in accordance with Rule 6.00(d) of the Rules of the Council.

Resolution Number:

- Former Intro 172-2024

Prime Sponsor:

- Council Member Sandy Nurse

Resolution Title:

- A Resolution calling on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, A.1749/S.1464, also known as the Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act, which would establish an extended producer responsibility system for packaging.

Submitted by:

- Council Member Sandy Nurse

### **Justification**

Packaging materials make up approximately 30% of all waste streams in the U.S. In New York State (NYS), local governments bear an unreasonable administrative and financial burden of managing the packaging waste and recycling. For example, in the Fiscal Year 2026, New York City has budgeted \$46 million for recycling processing. In this system, City taxpayers are effectively subsidizing large producers, who are enabled to create wasteful petroleum-based packaging.

This resolution calls on the NYS legislature and the Governor to pass the Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act, which would address the aforementioned problems by establishing an extended producer responsibility (EPR) system for packaging. The legislation would require producers to pay a third party Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO). The PRO then funds local governments for administering recycling programming, shifting the burden away from city taxpayers and onto producers.

The legislation also requires producers to reduce packaging and prohibits the use of certain toxic substances in packaging material. By passing this legislation, the NYS will create a more environmentally sound recycling system, resulting in lower greenhouse gas emissions. It would save millions of dollars for city governments, incentivize producers to design for reduction and recyclability, and therefore, create a more sustainable New York.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.