

Wisconsin Council on Recycling

To: Governor Tony Evers, Members of the State Assembly and State Senate

From: Wisconsin Council on Recycling

Date: February 12, 2024

RE: Recycling and Resource Recovery Legislation

The Council on Recycling is writing to express its support for recently proposed legislation that will have a positive impact on recycling and resource recovery in the state of Wisconsin. At the February 9th, 2024, Council on Recycling meeting the Council voted to support the following bills:

- **Senate Bill 906/Assembly Bill 987, the recently proposed legislation regarding education about rechargeable batteries and providing grants for collecting and recycling rechargeable batteries.** The Council on Recycling supports this legislation as a proactive solution to battery disposal and recycling and this piece of legislation is an important first step.
- **2023 SB 866/AB 958 proposes to update language in Wisconsin's electronic waste recycling program.** The Council on Recycling supports this bill as it will make much-needed changes to the E-Cycle Wisconsin program to recognize changes in technology and allow manufacturers to more accurately meet their target recycling weights. The bill also expands the definition of eligible electronic devices.
- **2023 SB 876/AB 935 would remove the prohibition on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources preventing it from utilizing its existing appropriation to conduct statutorily required statewide education on solid waste reduction, recovery, and recycling.** The importance of a consistent statewide educational program is significant, and the Council on Recycling supports this proposed legislation.
- **2023 SB 273 would create a food waste reduction grant program.** The program would provide grants for food waste reduction pilot projects that have an objective of preventing food waste, redirecting surplus food to hunger relief organizations, and composting food waste. The Council on Recycling supports this proposed legislation as an important first step in helping to reduce food waste in Wisconsin.

Recycling is something that has broad support from citizens, business and nonprofits across Wisconsin helping to protect our environment while supplying recycled feedstock to paper mills and other businesses to grow our economy.

Thank you for your consideration of the Council's input regarding these important pieces of legislation.

For more information please contact:

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The Wisconsin Council on Recycling, authorized in s. 287.22, Wis. Stats., is a citizens group, appointed by the governor, to advise the governor, Legislature and state agencies on solid waste reduction, recovery and recycling policy. Current members include individuals representing industry, business, non-profit organizations and local units of government.