

2025

Day 2

Concurrent AM

9:30 AM

Oct 23

Track B

Policy in Action: Customizing Zero Waste Policies for Your Community

Moderator: Kirstie Pecci

Kevin Budris

Speakers: Vanessa Zapata

Laura Orlando



NATIONAL
ZERO
WASTE
CONFERENCE






Policy in Action:

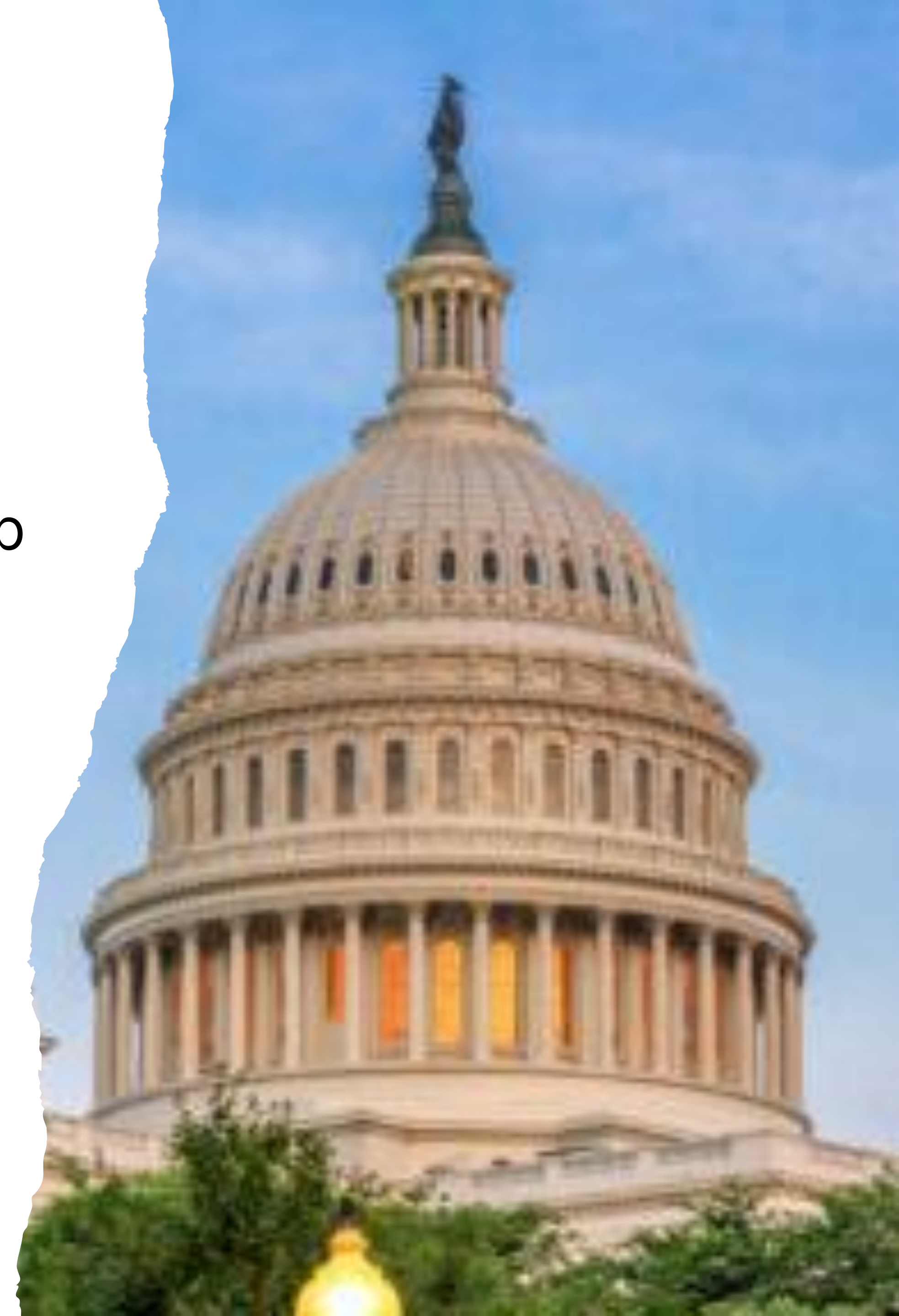
Customizing Zero Waste Policies for Your Community

National Zero Waste Conference 2025

A Zero Waste Non-Profit Advocacy Organization

- We partner with communities, advocates, and policy makers across the country to help implement real Zero Waste policy solutions.
- Why? Because our country's waste management practices are outdated and unsustainable – not to mention toxic and unjust.

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How We Work



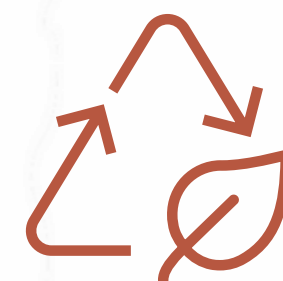
Corporate Pollution: Supporting policies that hold large companies accountable for their toxic and wasteful practices.



Healthy Environments: Working alongside communities fighting back against dangerous, production and waste facilities.



Preventable Waste: Developing and advocating for policies to eliminate unnecessary and polluting trash.



Zero Waste Systems: Championing efforts to build and implement proven and effective solutions to the waste crisis.

Today's Speakers



Kirstie Pecci
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Kevin Budris
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Vanessa Zapata
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Community-Centered Approach to the Waste Crisis



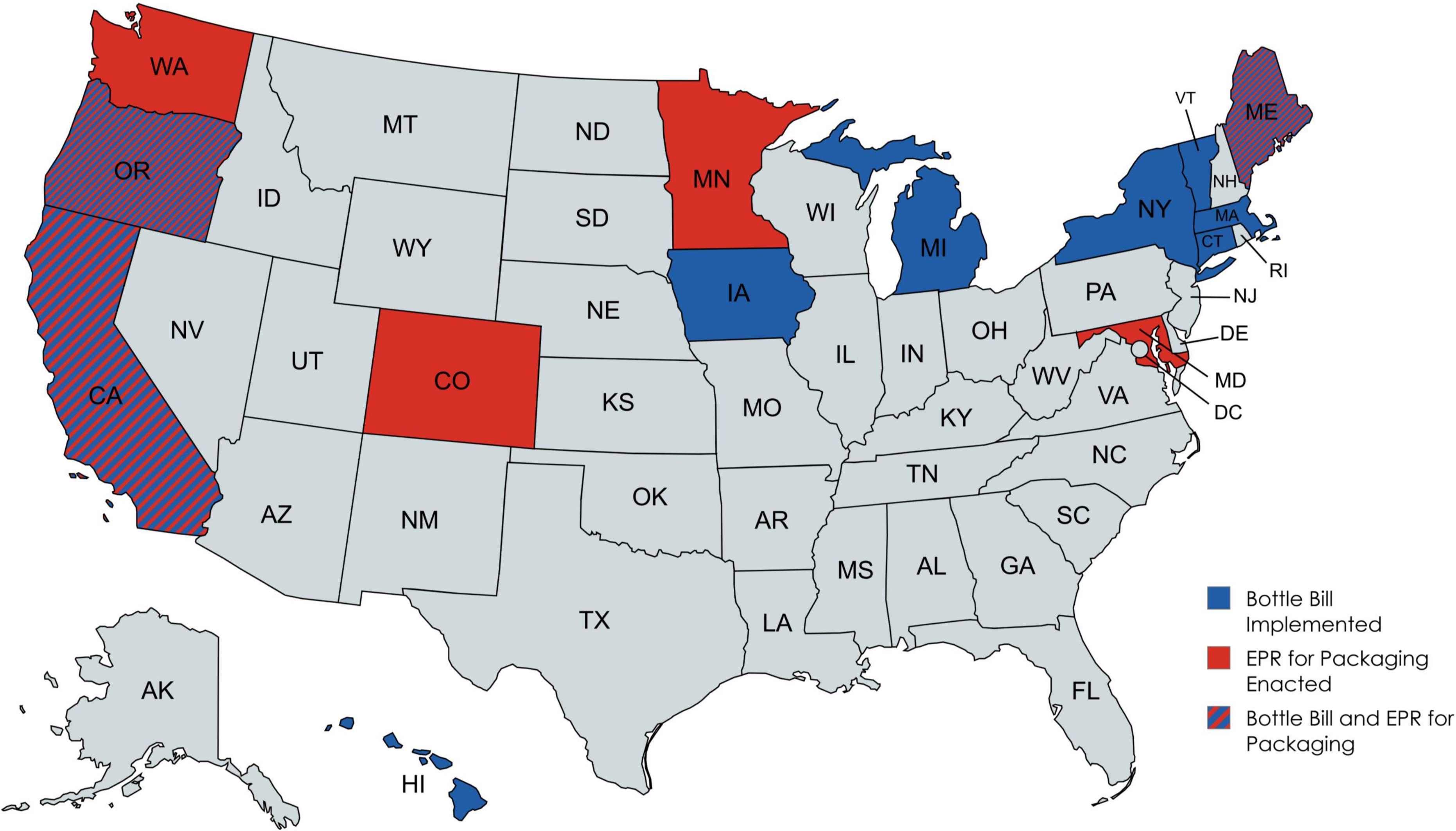
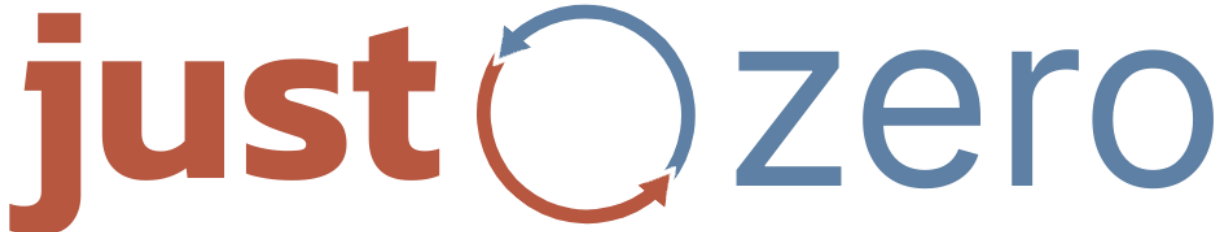


There Isn't A "Right Answer"

- Real Zero Waste solutions start with local and state experimentation.
- A static approach to policy-making ignores political realities, limits experimentation, and dismisses local expertise.
- Together, local priorities and lessons learned from throughout the U.S. create real momentum.

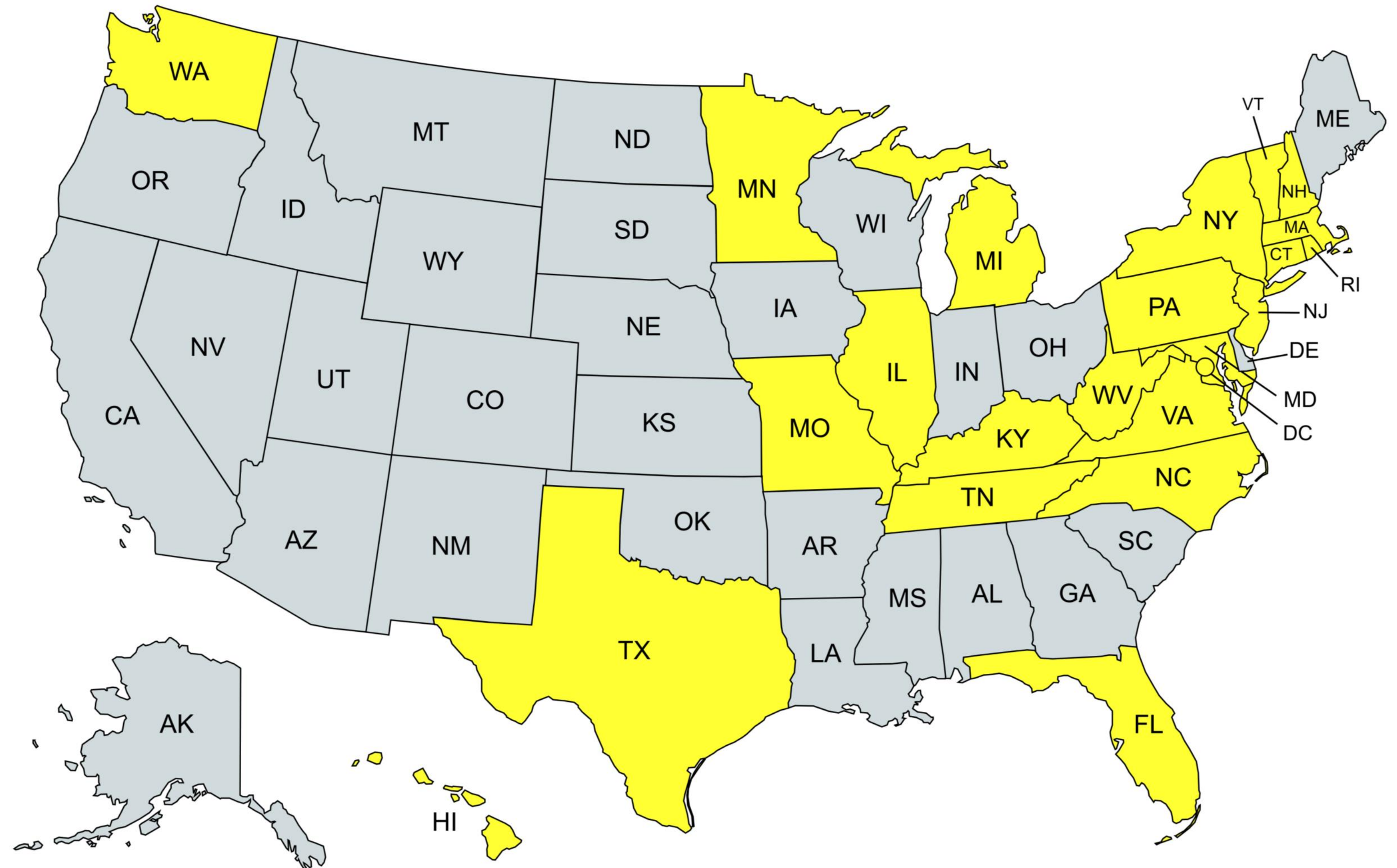
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Bottle Bills and EPR: All Shapes and Sizes



Building Momentum

Since 2022, 23 states/territories have considered, but not yet passed, Bottle Bill and/or EPR legislation.



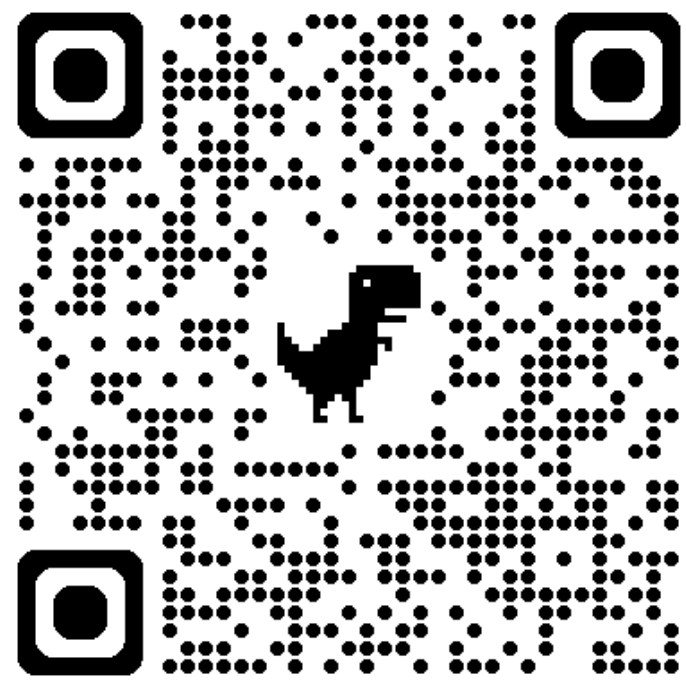
Your Priorities, Your Solutions

- The best policy approaches empower communities and local advocates and center their leadership and expertise.
- Adaptability over a one-size-fits-all approach.

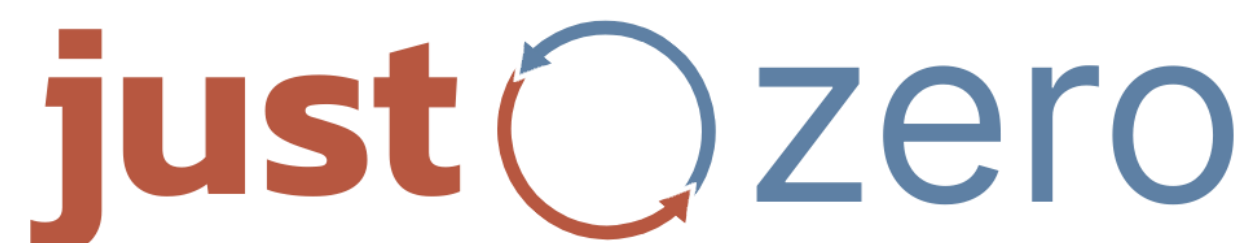
Just Zero's Model Legislative Toolkits

LEGISLATIVE TOOLKITS

- 6 different toolkits
- Interactive and customizable



<https://just-zero.org/model-legislative-toolkits/>



What issue do you want to address in your community?

Legislative Toolkit



BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

Reduce litter, increase recycling, and speed up the transition to reusable and refillable containers.

View Toolkit →

Legislative Toolkit



FOOD WASTE

Make food waste a thing of the past by banning the disposal of food waste in landfills and incinerators.

View Toolkit →

Legislative Toolkit



GREENWASHING

Prohibit companies from making false and misleading claims about their products and packaging.

View Toolkit →

Legislative Toolkit



PACKAGING WASTE

Reduce packaging by making companies eliminate needless plastics and invest in recycling and reuse.

View Toolkit →

Legislative Toolkit



SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

Phase out single-use plastics, strengthen real recycling programs, and end corporate greenwashing.

View Toolkit →

Legislative Toolkit



HIGH-HEAT FACILITIES

Protect communities from all forms of toxic and climate damaging trash burning facilities.

View Toolkit →

What's Next?

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Prohibitions on the Land Application of Sewage Sludge



Proven Toxic to Human Health



Increased News Coverage



New and Proposed Laws



Sludge Free Land Coalition



Farmer Involvement

THANK YOU!

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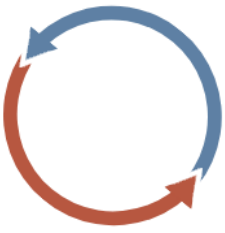
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