



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT WITH CHANGES TO HB 6386
AN ACT CONCERNING EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR TIRES,
SMOKE DETECTORS, AND CERTAIN GAS CYLINDERS

February 8, 2021

To: Honored Co-Chairs Sen. Cohen and Rep. Borer and Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee

From: Lori Brown, Executive Director, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). CTLCV strongly supports HB 6386 with changes that bring the tire language into an EPR framework. A tire hauler license would not curb illegal tire dumping, it would not fix the disposal problem, and it would be expensive for the taxpayer.

A similar effort in 2018 to establish a tire licensing program (HB 5128) had a grossly incorrect fiscal note that made it appear that a tire hauler license fee would generate revenue for the state. To the contrary, establishing a licensing or permitting program would require DEEP to establish a new state program that would need funding and the hiring of additional staff. The best strategy for managing scrap tires is to establish a stewardship program similar to programs already in place for paint and mattresses.

Connecticut has been at the forefront of supporting and implementing EPR and has brought diverse stakeholders together to develop programs for electronics, mattresses, paint, and thermostats. These programs have saved municipalities millions of dollars in disposal costs, created jobs, and developed more effective disposal programs for these items.

Packaging changes and single use items have increased the amount of trash due to limited recycling options. **By involving producers in product disposal, EPR incentivizes the redesign of products with the cost of disposal in mind.** EPR is a mandatory policy requiring manufacturers to take responsibility for their product and packaging through all life cycle stages, including disposal.

CTLCV is thrilled that lawmakers are turning to EPR as an important waste management tool and we thank you for your consideration of our remarks.

Lori Brown, Executive Director
CT League of Conservation Voters
553 Farmington Avenue, Suite 201 Hartford, CT 06105
ctlcv.org | ctlcv@ctlcv.org