**Resolution Urging the Enactment of the Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act (S.4246-B/A.5322-B)**

**WHEREAS,** in New York State, more than 18 million tons of municipal solid waste (MSW) is generated each year, or about five pounds per day for every person who lives in the state; and

**WHEREAS,** greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the waste sector represent about 12 percent of statewide emissions; and

**WHEREAS**, the most significant GHG emissions impact during the lifecycle of products and packaging result not from disposal but from the production of products and packaging that eventually become waste; and

**WHEREAS,** in addition to the climate impacts of waste, the costs associated with its recycling and disposal impose a significant burden on local governments and taxpayers; and

**WHEREAS,** the Climate Action Council’s Final Scoping Plan recommends New York State enact legislation to create a product stewardship framework or target products with the greatest GHG impact, such as packaging, printed paper, carpets, tires, textiles, solar panels, wind turbines, batteries, appliances, and mattresses; and

**WHEREAS,** S.4246-B (Harckham)/A.5322-B (Glick) would enact the Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act to create an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program for packaging materials; and

**WHEREAS,** S.4246-B/A.5322-B would make producers legally and financially responsible for mitigating the environmental impacts of their packaging; and

**WHEREAS,** this legislation would not only provide meaningful relief to local governments but also reduce GHG emissions from the production and disposal of consumer goods by incentivizing producers to reduce waste and design products that are more sustainable; and

**WHEREAS,**  S.4246-B/A.5322-B would also prohibit certain toxic and dangerous chemicals in packaging, including per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), ortho-phthalates, bisphenols, halogenated flame retardants, heavy metals such as lead, and other chemicals posing a threat to human health and safety and the environment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** [LOCAL GOVERNMENT] calls on the Senate and Assembly to pass and the Governor to sign S.4246-B (Harckham)/A.5322-B (Glick) during the 2024 Legislative Session; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** [LOCAL GOVERNMENT] calls on the Governor and the Legislature to also enact an EPR program for paper products, which were excluded from the B-print of this legislation, in recognition of their significant contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and municipal recycling costs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, the New York State Legislature, and all others deemed necessary and proper.