



COALITION FOR
CONSUMER CHOICES

March 5, 2025

The Honorable Glenn Youngkin
Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia
Patrick Henry Building
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Governor Youngkin,

On behalf of the members of the Coalition for Consumer Choices, we ask that you continue to support restoring the original dates of 2028 and 2030 for delaying the ban on polystyrene containers.

The General Assembly has deleted your amendment to your Introduced Budget that restored these dates and substituted language to implement a ban beginning July 1, 2025, for establishments with twenty or more locations and a ban for all others beginning July 1, 2026. This change will be detrimental to our members from stranded supplies to efforts to secure affordable alternatives that perform as well as polystyrene.

The Coalition for Consumer Choices was formed to actively support public policies that will help Virginia become a top-tier state for recycling. We oppose policies that tax, fee or ban recyclable materials that are necessary or convenient for consumers. We appreciate and agree with the directives in your Executive Order 17 in support of policies promoting recycling that will create investment in innovative technologies and jobs in Virginia and lessen the stress on our landfills.

The original dates of 2028 and 2030 were adopted to allow time to recruit companies, technologies, and jobs in the recycling industry to Virginia and to determine if banning products that consumers want, and need is really necessary.

The amendment to require a phased ban this year and next year creates great difficulty for small businesses and consumers and sends the wrong message to the recycling community and would be investors to build a strong recycling infrastructure in Virginia.

The high cost of high inflation is already putting a significant burden on Virginia's families, restaurants, and other small businesses. Taking away cost efficient polystyrene containers which tens of thousands of small businesses and their customers rely on for the safe and convenient transport of food and other products is unnecessary and will further strain the budgets of families and small businesses.

The Coalition is grateful for your previous effort to delay this unwise ban through budget language in your Introduced Budget and asks again that you restore your language delaying dates for a ban as part of your review of the General Assembly approved budget.

Sincerely,



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- American Chemistry Council • American Recyclable Plastic Bag Alliance • Foodservice Packaging Institute • Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce • Greater Williamsburg Chamber of Commerce • Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce • Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce • NFIB • NOVA Chamber of Commerce • Prince William Chamber of Commerce • Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce • Virginia Chemistry Council • Virginia Food Industry Association • Virginia Retail Federation • Virginia Manufacturers Association • Virginia Wholesalers and Distributors Association • Virginia Restaurant Lodging and Travel Association •



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