



PRESS RELEASE

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Legislature Passes Bill to Modernize Oregon's Recycling System

Senate Bill 582 will update the way Oregon manages waste to reduce harmful pollutants in Oregon's waterways and food chain

SALEM, OR—Today the Oregon House passed legislation to strengthen Oregon's outdated recycling program.

[Senate Bill 582](#) establishes statewide recycling rates for plastic and recycling contamination reduction goals, and requires large producers of packaging, paper products, and food service ware to help fund the expansion of recycling services. The bill will increase accessibility in rural areas and apartment complexes.

“We can't keep doing the same thing we've been doing for nearly 40 years – the world has changed too much. Oregon is ready for SB 582,” said [Rep. Janeen Sollman](#) (D-Hillsboro), who carried the bill on the House floor.

Under Oregon's current recycling system, materials are frequently sold to third parties who have no oversight and little accountability, resulting in materials entering the water supply and food chain when they are disposed of improperly.

“The time is now. If we do nothing, ratepayers will bear increasing costs, all while the producers who contribute more to marine debris and plastic pollution, pay nothing. Just as with the passage of Oregon's Bottle Bill 50 years ago, the passage of this bill today will show that Oregon is once again leading the way to make positive change for our future,” finished Sollman.

SB 582 passed 31-24, and now heads to the Governor's desk.

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