



Extended Producer Responsibility for Textiles

Scott Cassel, PSI

Product Stewardship Institute

Building the capacity for product stewardship and EPR in the U.S. for **20+ years**



Maine Department of
Environmental Protection



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental Quality



Connecticut Department of
ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington



DEPARTMENT OF
**ENVIRONMENTAL
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SUPPLY | RECOVERY | PROOF

Members from
47 **state** government agencies
hundreds of **local** governments

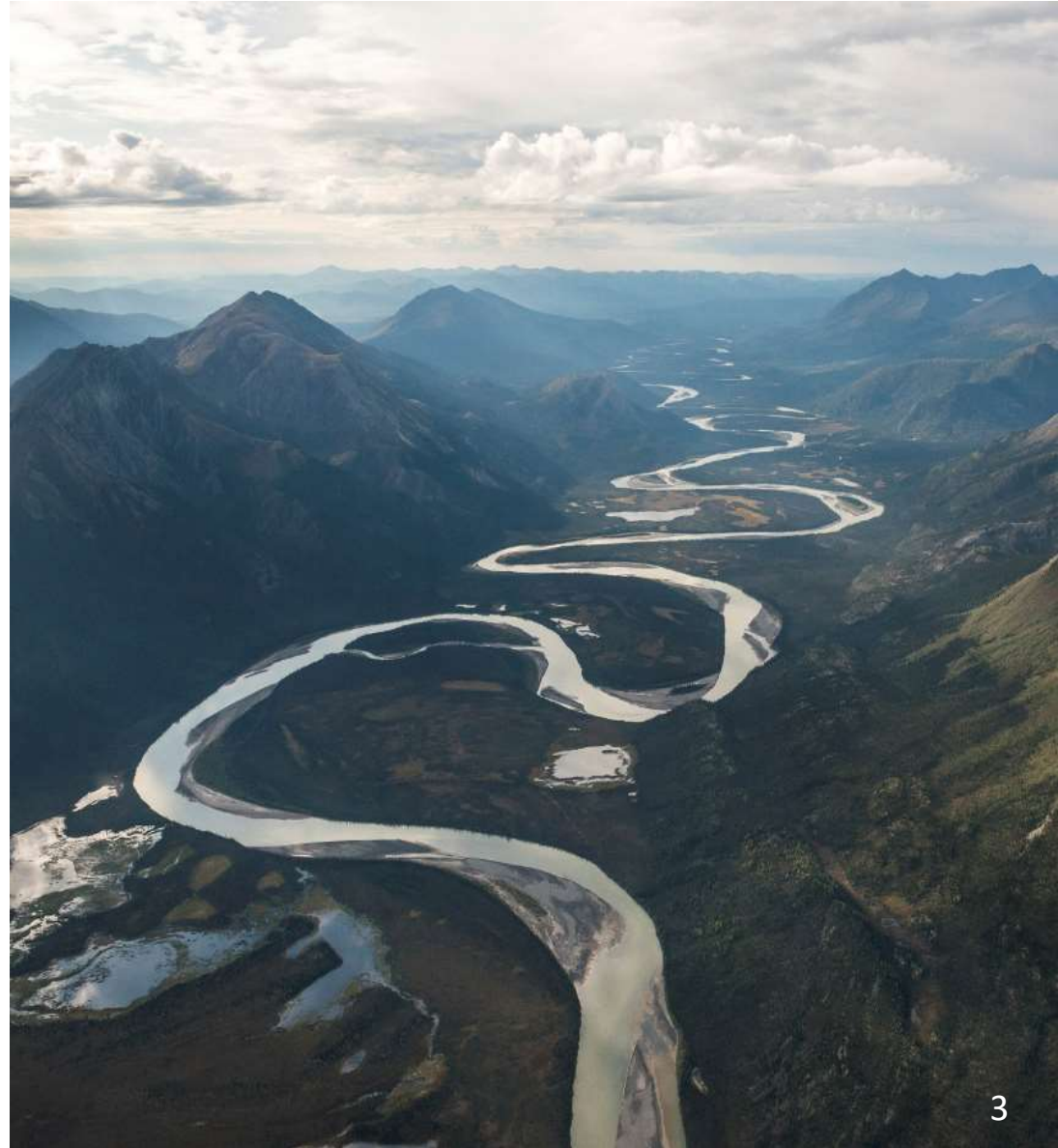
Many
individual
donors

100+ **Partners**
(industry, NGOs,
international governments)

Our Mission



Reduce the health
and environmental
impacts of products
across their life cycle



Product Categories



Textiles



Electronics



HHW



Mattresses



Packaging



Batteries



Pharmaceuticals



Thermostats



Phone Books



Medical Sharps



Fluorescent
Lamps



Solar Panels

Product Categories



Appliances with Refrigerants



Framework



Tires



Gas Cylinders



Carpet



Radioactive Devices



Pesticides



Auto Switches



Paint



Used Motor Oil

A circular inset image on the left side of the slide shows a close-up of a piece of light-colored fabric that has been torn or shredded, revealing the underlying structure and fibers. The surrounding area is dark and textured, possibly representing a pile of waste or a landfill.

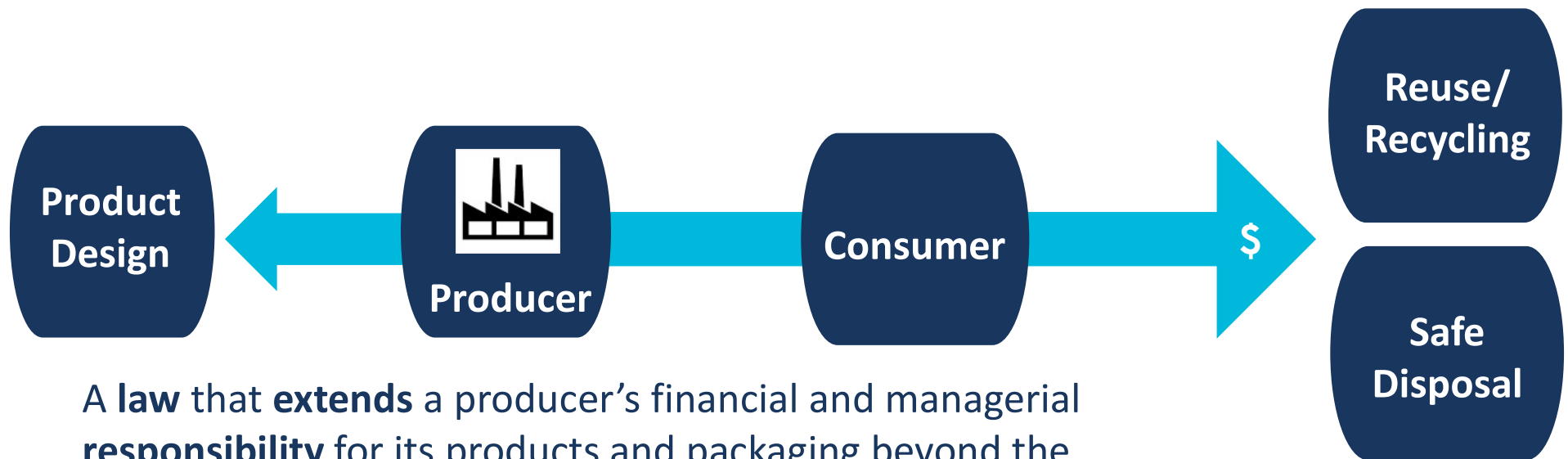
The Problem

- Textiles = second largest polluting industry.
 - Pesticides and water use
 - Toxics in dyes
 - Energy-intensive production
- 17 million tons generated in the U.S., >11 million tons landfilled.
- Only ~15% of used textiles are recycled.



EPR Is the Centerpiece of the Circular Economy

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

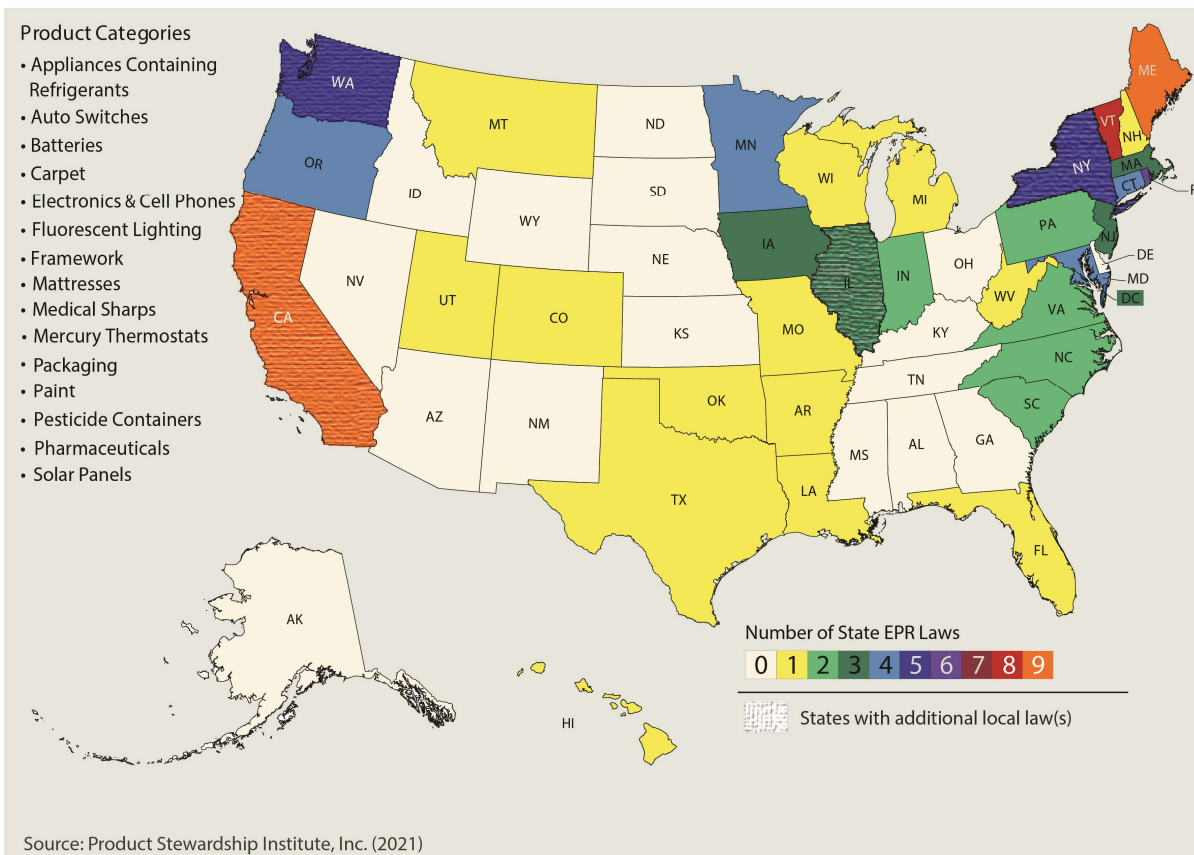


A **law** that **extends** a producer's financial and managerial **responsibility** for its products and packaging beyond the manufacturing stage — both **upstream** to product design and **downstream** to **postconsumer** reuse, recycling, or safe disposal.

PSI EPR Policy Model

Covered Materials/ Products	Governance	Performance Standards	Stewardship Plan Contents
Covered Entities	Funding Inputs	Outreach & Education Requirements	Annual Report Contents
Collection & Convenience	Funding Allocation	Equity & Environmental Justice	Implementation Timeline
Responsible Party ("Producer")	Design for Environment	Enforcement & Penalties for Violation	Additional Components & Definitions

EPR in the United States



124 Laws

15 Products

33 States + D.C.

None for textiles — yet

Why Is EPR Growing in the U.S. and Globally?

1. EPR ground has been plowed – other products
2. Experience – EPR works:
 - Sustainable financing (\$\$\$ savings)
 - Education and infrastructure (convenience)
 - Increased recovery and recycling
 - Jobs
 - Network of accountability
3. Potential for better products (fewer life-cycle impacts)



Case Study: France

- Only national EPR law for textiles (2006)
- 100% manufacturer responsibility
- Similar to most U.S. EPR laws:
 - Performance goals
 - Outreach and education
 - No eco-fees
 - Wide product scope
 - Financing based on items sold
 - Industry participation



Case Study: France

Program Mechanics

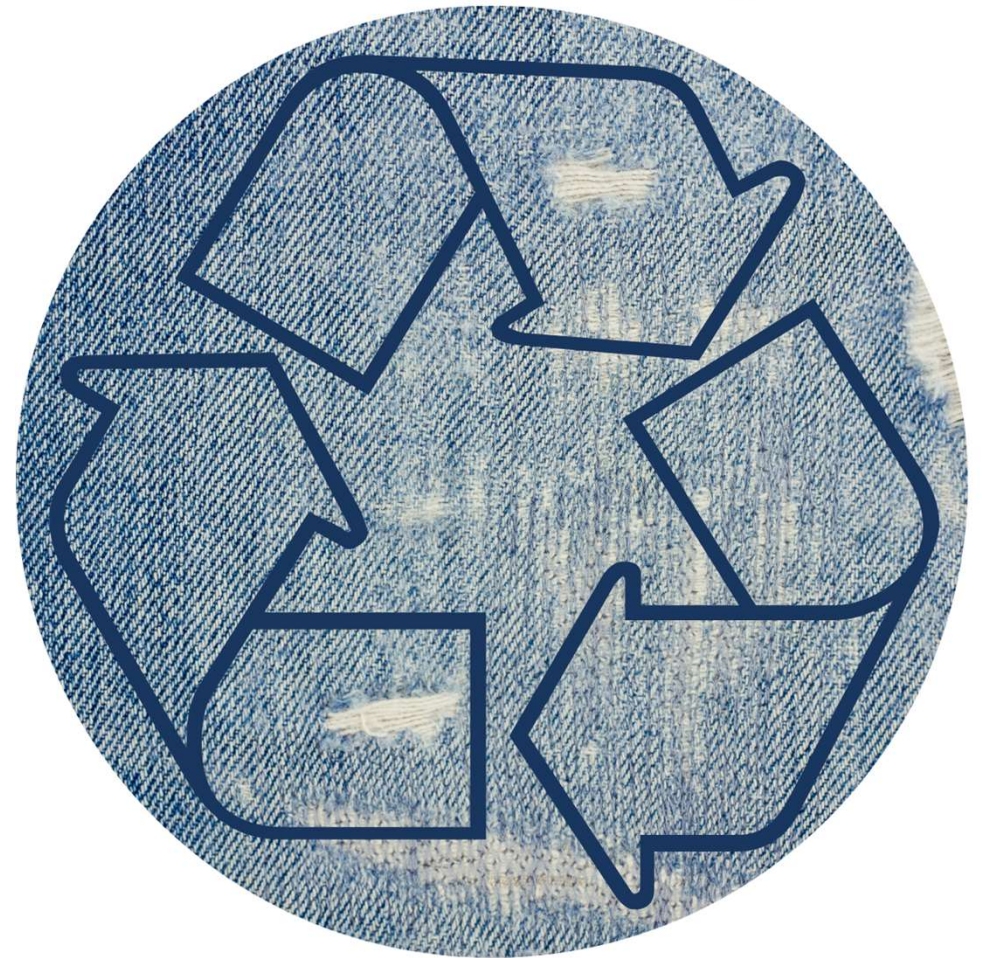
- Implemented through EcoTLC (PRO)
- Funding incentivizes use of recycled fibers
- Additional initiatives: R&D, outreach and education



Case Study: France

Results

- Collection ↑ 70% from 2009 to 2016
 - 35% recovery rate
- Collection sites ↑ 260% from 2010 to 2016
- Nearly 60% of collected material is reused, less than 1% sent to landfill.



Highlights of PSI's Work on Textiles



2016 NY standard for
collection of used textiles



2017 multi-stakeholder textiles
summit at Fashion Institute of
Technology

Challenges

- Although existing markets exist for 95% of used textiles, most is disposed.
- Getting textile and fashion industries on board.
- Retailers signing on as drop-off locations.
- Bringing designers and recyclers together.
- Consumer confusion.
- Secondary textile materials compete globally with low-cost new products produced in Asia and Africa.

Contact

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