



May 15, 2013

The Honorable Pat McElraft
Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural and Economic Resources
North Carolina House of Representatives
300 N. Salisbury Street, Room 634
Raleigh, NC 27603

The Honorable Roger West
Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural and Economic Resources
North Carolina House of Representatives
16 W. Jones Street, Room 1229
Raleigh, NC 27601

RE: Restoration of Recycling Program Funding

Dear Chair McElraft and Chair West:

On behalf of the Glass Packaging Institute (GPI), I am writing to ask for your support in reinstating funding for North Carolina recycling programs and related infrastructure through the Solid Waste Trust Fund.

GPI is the North American trade association for the glass container manufacturing industry, whose member companies employ over 1,000 state residents at their facilities in Durham, Henderson, Raleigh, Wilson and Winston-Salem.

The recovery and subsequent reuse of recyclable materials is an essential element of manufacturing in the state. The glass container industry purchases and uses recycled glass in its North Carolina manufacturing facilities daily, permitting the glass plants to both lower energy use and decrease associated greenhouse gas emissions.

Governor McCrory's proposed budget allocates only 60 percent of the normal annual funding to the Solid Waste Trust Fund, which is the primary supporter of North Carolina recycling programs.

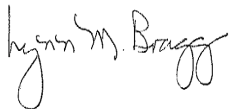
By restoring that funding to its full annual amount (the remaining 40%), the state will continue to see direct benefits to its economy in the form of jobs in the recycling industry and business investment. The Solid Waste Trust Fund is comprised primarily of fees paid for by the broader solid waste industry.

North Carolina's recycling programs have been effective in helping to maintain a strong recycling economy, along with diverting thousands of tons of materials from landfill disposal and into the "supply chain" of the state's glass container and other manufacturing industries.

Reduced funding poses a significant threat to the progress being made by in-state recyclers and manufacturers. The Fund provides necessary technical assistance and grants that assist in recycled material collection and processing infrastructure. By restoring full funding to the Solid Waste Trust Fund, the state recycling program will continue its successful efforts to expand recovery of valuable materials from landfill disposal.

The North Carolina glass container manufacturing industry, our glass recycling partners and communities across the state would very much appreciate your support in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly with any questions you may have.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn M. Bragg". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "L".

Lynn M. Bragg
President

Cc: Members, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural and Economic Resources