

SUPPORT HB 228

Topic: Water- Plastics

Bill Patron: Delegate Cole

OVERVIEW:

HB 228 will prohibit manufactures from using the chasing arrows recycling symbol on products unless it is actually recyclable in that locality or region. The bill will also require Virginia to compile a list of recyclable materials in the Commonwealth.

REASONS TO SUPPORT:

- Consumers have the right to know if the products they are using are recyclable or not. However, many plastic manufacturers have been overusing the recycling symbol to make their products seem sustainable even if they're not.
- When consumers place items in the recycling bin, they don't get much assurance that their products are recycled. Once their items are hauled away, Virginians do not know if those items end up landfilled, recycled into a similar product or shipped overseas to be dealt with elsewhere.
- Virginians should be able to look up if a product is recyclable and know where it goes to be processed and recycled.
- HB 228 is critical in determining what is recyclable in Virginia and provides consumers with assurance that their items are being recycled here in Virginia.
- Virginia needs to modernize recycling. A critical step in modernizing recycling is knowing what materials are being used, disposed and managed. Consumers currently have no assurance that what they recycle is recycled.



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This position was taken by Virginia Conservation Network (VCN)'s Legislative Committee and Board of Directors and is supported by Virginia's conservation community. For a complete list of VCN positions, visit www.vcnva.org/bill-tracker. VCN is committed to building a powerful, diverse, and highly-coordinated conservation movement focused on protecting our Commonwealth's natural resources today and for tomorrow.