

February 28, 2022

The Honorable Thomas Carper
United States Senate
513 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senate
172 Russel Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boozman
United States Senate
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Carper, Capito, and Boozman,

On behalf of the Aluminum Association and its member companies, I am writing to express our support for the *Recycling and Composting Accountability Act* in addition to the *Recycling Infrastructure and Accessibility Act*.

The Aluminum Association represents the U.S. aluminum industry across the entire value chain. Recycling, or secondary production, is a critical part of that value chain with 80% of U.S. production today coming from recycled aluminum. Aluminum is the most profitable item in the recycling bin and often makes the collection of less-valuable materials possible. While aluminum cans are recycled at far higher rates than glass or plastic, these rates have fallen below 50% in recent years. In industrial markets, aluminum recycling rates remain over 90%.

The *Recycling and Composting Accountability Act* will provide a comprehensive and uniform dataset on material recovery facilities that will allow for the targeting of future investments in our nation's recycling system. Having more information about the facilities, what type of aluminum products they accept, and material diversion from the circular economy will help with decision-making that can make the difference in saving our critical feedstock from landfills.

The *Recycling Infrastructure and Accessibility Act* will make crucial recycling infrastructure investments in communities that have long been underserved. As Senator Carper pointed out in his remarks, 75% of all aluminum ever produced is still in use today – but more work must be done. In order to reduce our energy use, improve our environment, and reduce the over \$800 million of aluminum sent to landfills each year, we must utilize innovative policy solutions like those put forward in this bill for improving the collection of recyclables in underserved areas to drive a true circular economy for aluminum.

We appreciate the leadership you and your staff have shown in crafting this legislation and welcome the opportunity to assist you in advancing these bipartisan priorities.

Respectfully submitted,



Virginia Gum Hamisevicz
Vice President Government Relations & International Programs
The Aluminum Association