

October 13, 2021

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Letter in Support of Bipartisan Infrastructure Package

Dear Minority Leader McCarthy,

The Flexible Packaging Association (FPA) urges Congress to expedite passage of the Senate Bipartisan Infrastructure package amendment to H.R. 3684 – Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (INVEST Act), with the inclusion of the RECYCLE Act (S. 293/H.R.2159) and grant funding for the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act (S.1982). As we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, now is the time for important investment in infrastructure and direct action to address environmental priorities.

FPA is committed to a circular economy for flexible packaging – designing the right package for the product and utilizing less water and energy to do so; emitting fewer greenhouse gases in the manufacture and transportation of the package; using the least amount of packaging, plastic or multi-materials, necessary for the protection of the product; and creating less waste in the first place®. **Unfortunately, technological advancement and innovation across the flexible packaging industry have far outpaced the rate at which improvements have been made to the recycling system since the 1980s.** Simply put, more packaging waste is ending up in landfills and the environment because recycling infrastructure is lacking.

The RECYCLE Act and full funding for the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act demonstrates to industries and the American people a federal commitment to modernizing our nation's recycling system. The RECYCLE Act addresses many of the current shortcomings and offers investment in new programs, hard infrastructure, education, and outreach. Additionally, the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act's Post Consumer Materials Management Grants program will provide \$275 million to states to support local improvements, including municipal recycling programs and local waste management systems.

This groundbreaking, bi-partisan legislation, with both industry and ENGO support, represents a tremendous opportunity to take a leading role in combating the harmful environmental impacts caused by excess waste and pollution and provide critical funding for state and local governments.

For the above stated reasons, the Flexible Packaging Association respectfully urges swift passage of the bipartisan Senate amendment to the INVEST Act, which will address not only traditional infrastructure such as roads and bridges, but also necessary investment in

circularity and the environmental health of that infrastructure. In advance, thank you for your time and consideration, and please feel free to contact me at akeane@flexpack.org or 410-694-0800 should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alison Keane". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alison A. Keane, Esq., CAE, IOM
President & CEO
Flexible Packaging Association