



EPR in OK & Beyond

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OKRA Conference

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Product Stewardship Institute

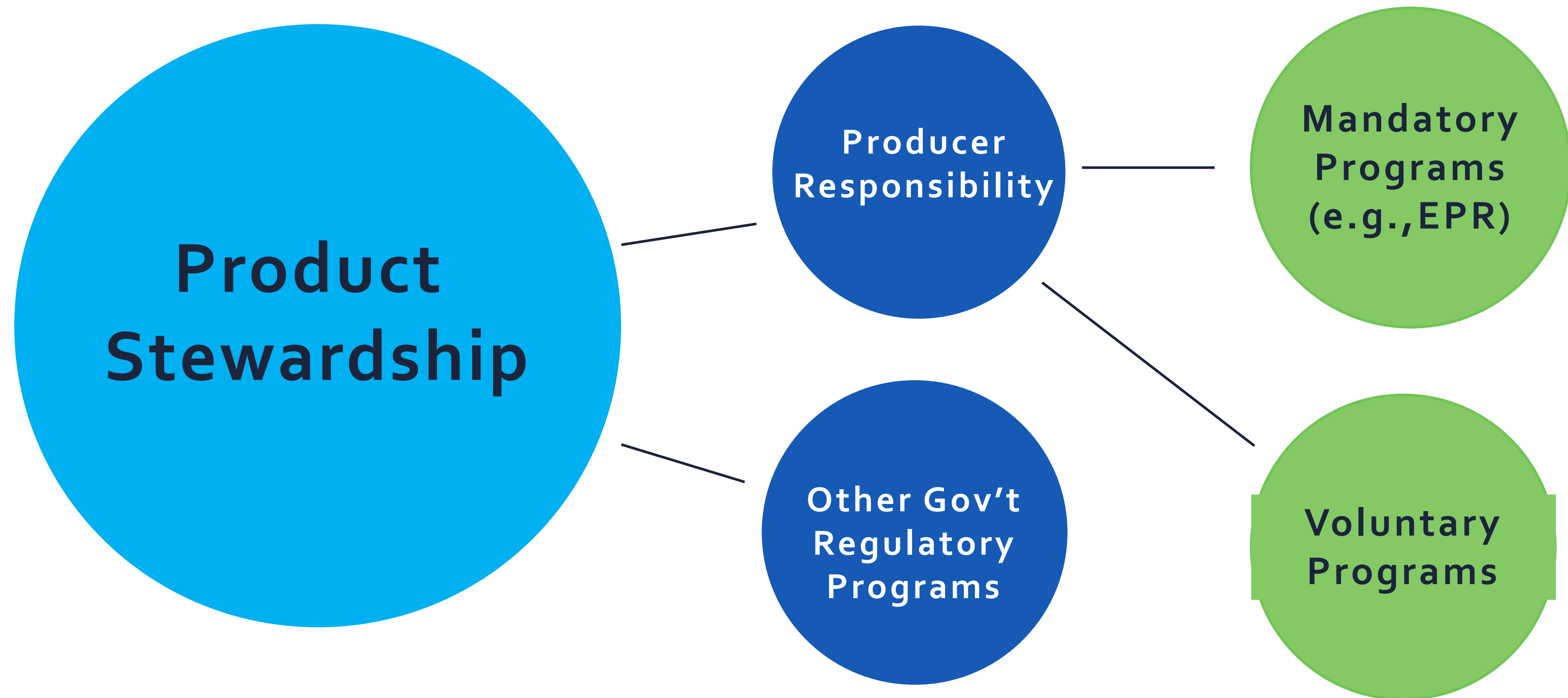
National Non-profit Building the capacity for product stewardship and EPR in the U.S. to reduce the health & env'l impacts of products across their lifecycle for **20 years**



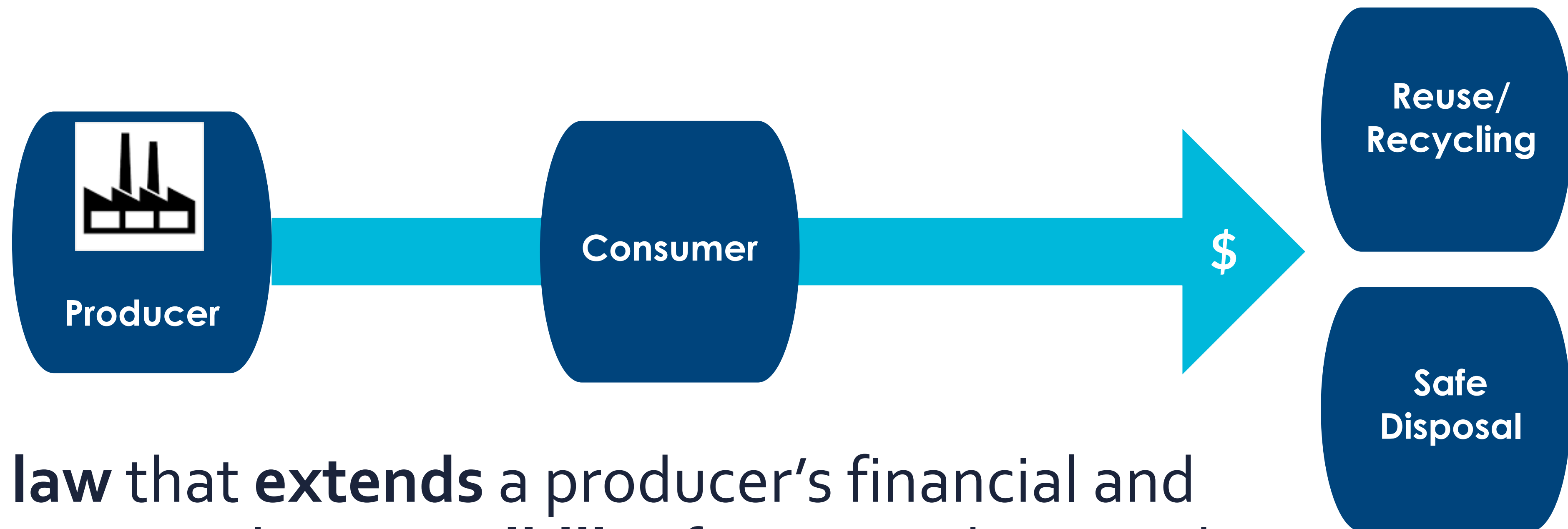
Members from
47 **state** gov't agencies
hundreds of **local** gov'ts

> 100 **Partners** representing
producers, recyclers, waste management,
retailers, NGOs, academics, international gov'ts

Product Stewardship vs. EPR

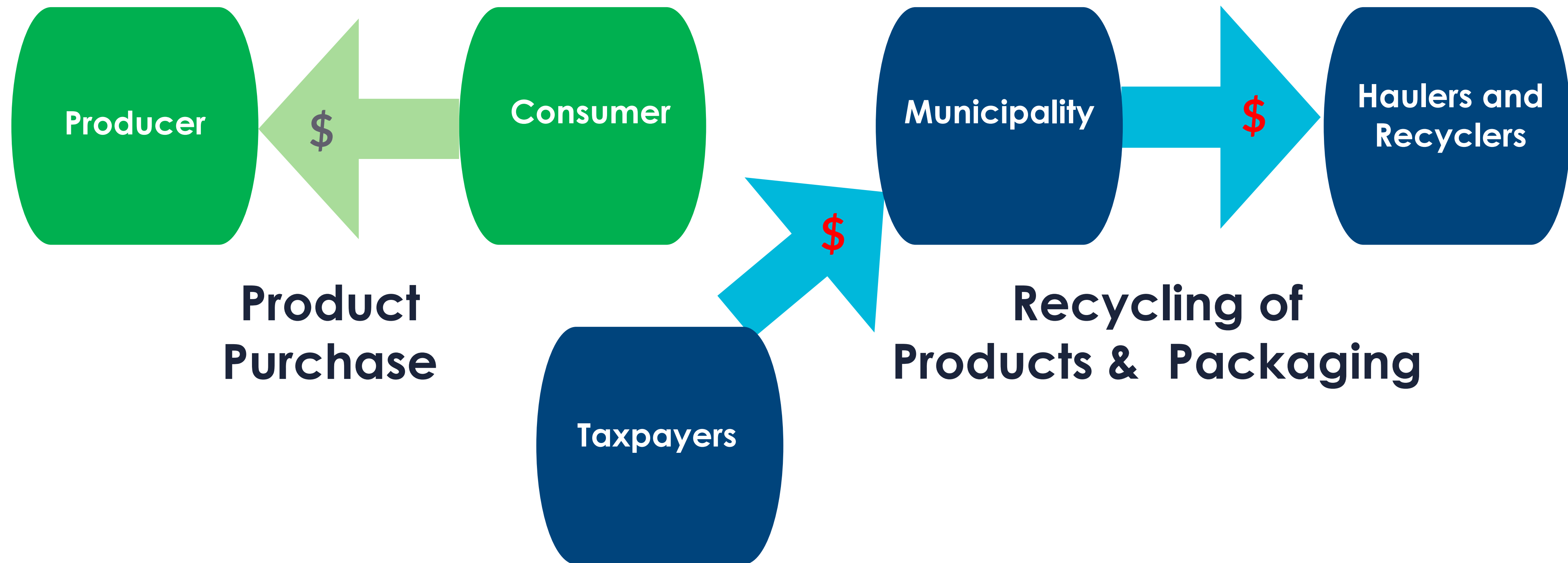


Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

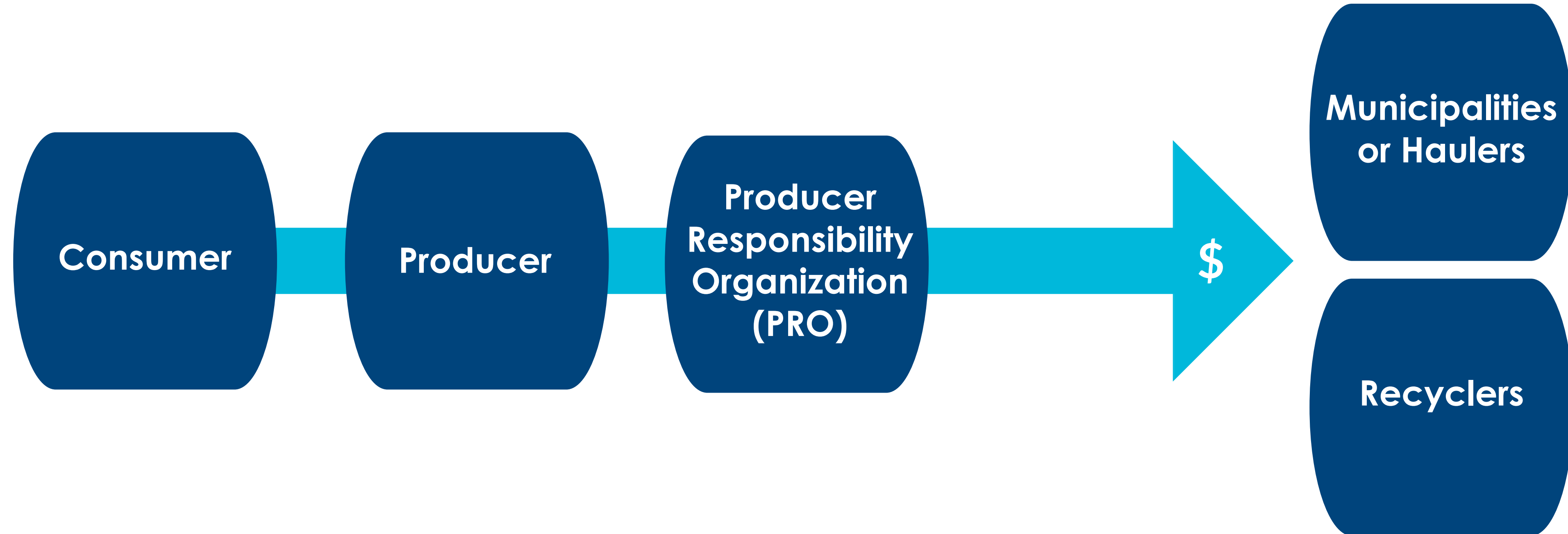


A law that **extends** a producer's financial and managerial **responsibility** for its products and packaging beyond the manufacturing stage to **post-consumer** reuse, recycling, or safe disposal.

Our Fragmented System



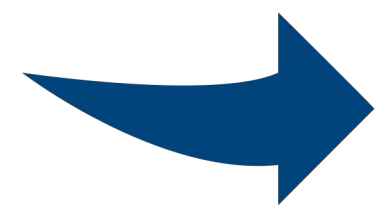
EPR System



What are the benefits of EPR over current recycling systems?



- Funded by producers & consumers, not local governments & taxpayers
- Harmonize recycling statewide – reduce contamination
- Uniform resident education
- Same list of materials collected



Increased marketability of collected materials; more material recycled

How does EPR address fluctuating recyclables markets?

- more stable than current systems
- producers foster local end-markets
- producers absorb fluctuating costs



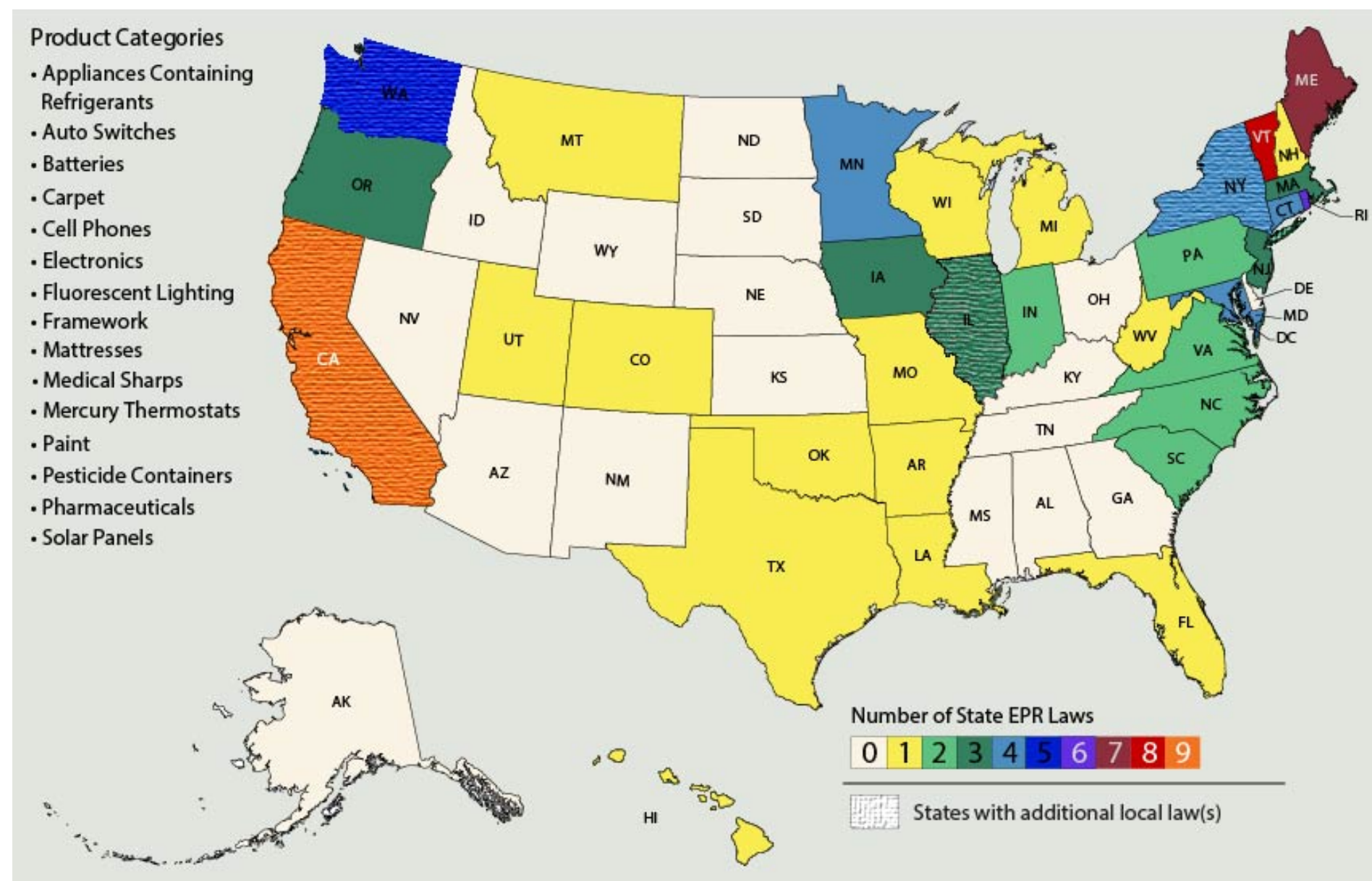
8 Key Elements of EPR Systems

1. **legislation:** levels the playing field
2. **scope of products:** what's covered?
3. **producers responsible** for financing (and managing) programs
4. **stewardship organization(s)** manage programs
5. **financing mechanism:** how the system is financed
6. **design for environment** & eco-modulated fees
7. **options for local governments** (funding & mgt)
8. **government oversight** of industry's plan



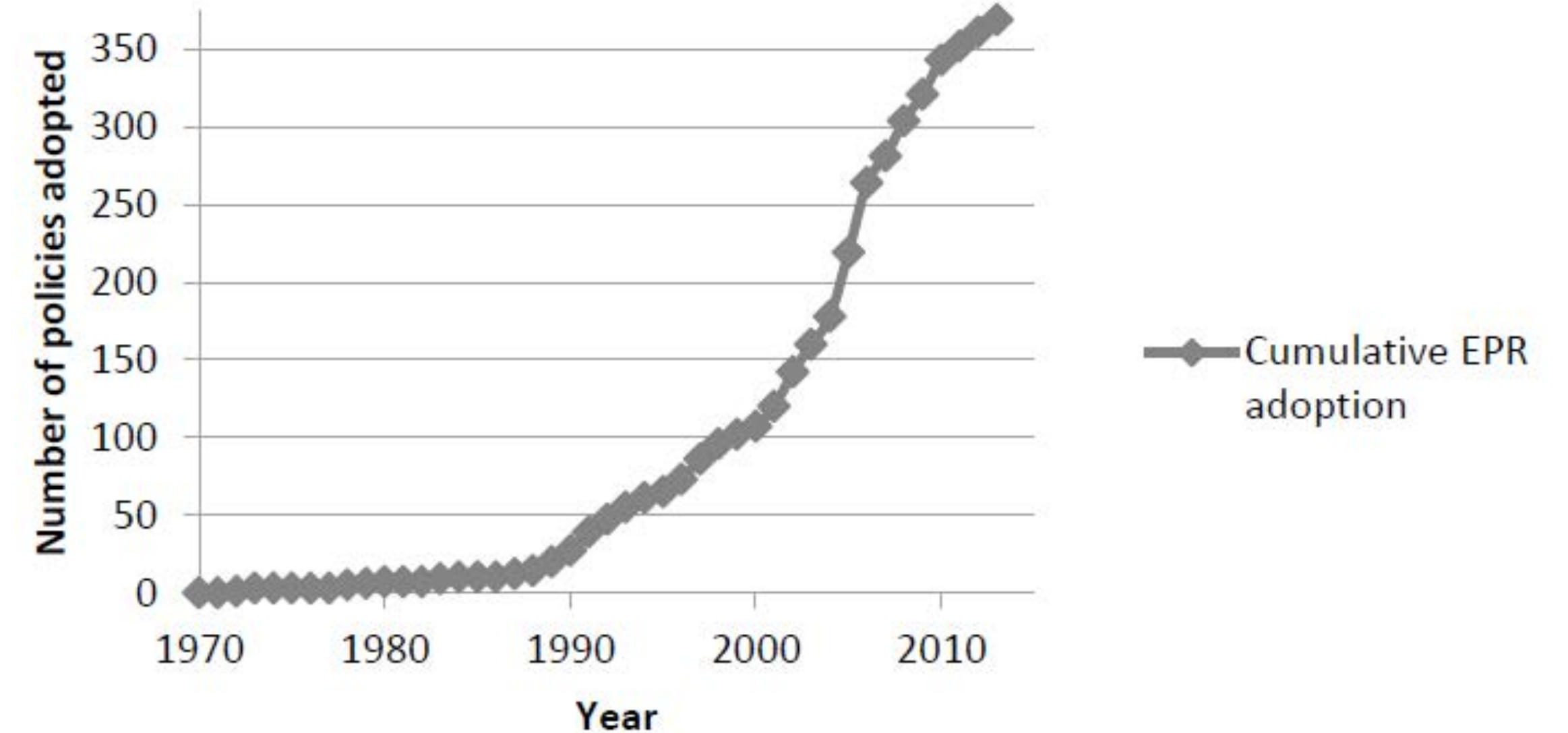
EPR Adoption

In the United States (no packaging)



**119 EPR Laws | 14 Products | 33 States + D.C.
2020**

Around the World (packaging, tires, electronics, etc.)



**>369 EPR laws
2013**

OK EPR for Electronics

- 1 EPR law (electronics): Oklahoma Computer Equipment Recovery Act – passed in 2008
- Opportunities to Improve this Law
 - Specify the funding obligation mechanism (not currently specified)
 - Establish performance goals
 - Enhance the limited convenience standards – convenience is key!
 - Implement a disposal ban
 - Expand the product scope to cover TVs

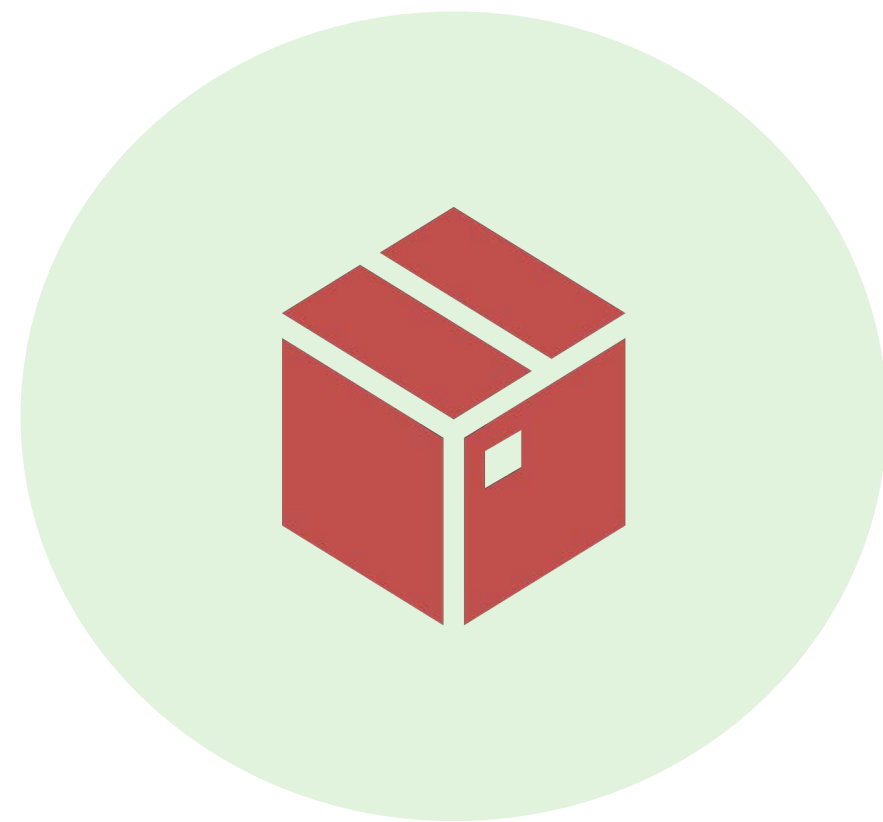


OK Stewardship for Pharmaceuticals + Sharps

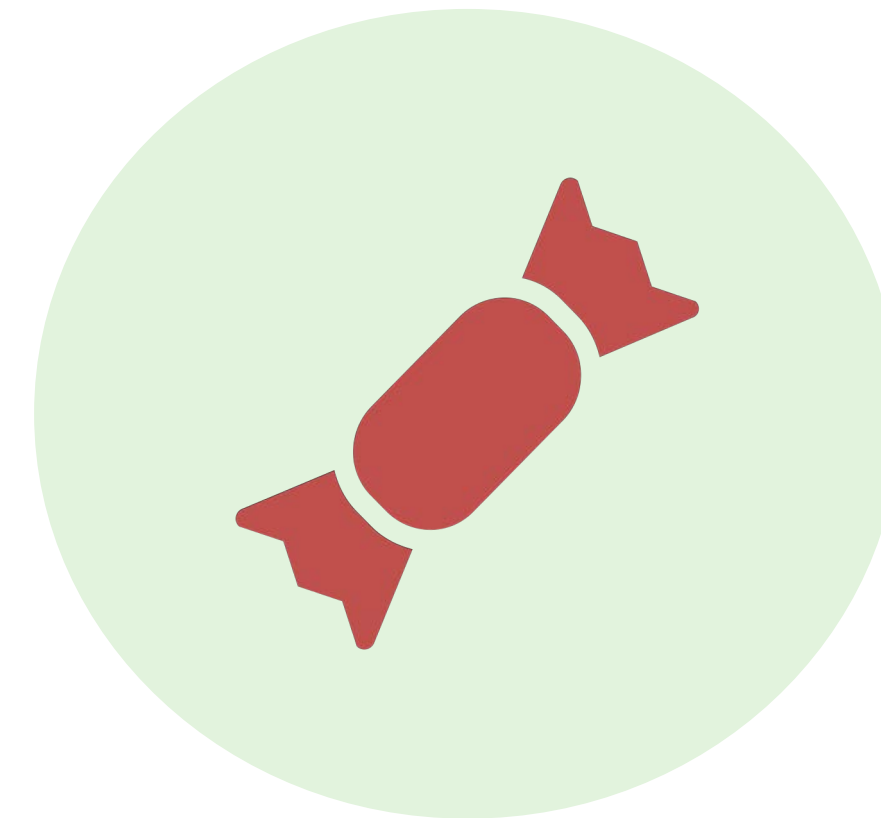
- Drug take-back programs provide **safe + convenient disposal** for unwanted meds.
- **450+ sites** for pharmaceutical collection in OK – mostly law enforcement + pharmacy sites
- **Sustainable funding needed** to ensure year-round access to all consumers
- **Opportunities**
 - Increase medical sharps collection options – needed in most counties
 - Increase awareness of safe disposal practices + options
 - Join the OK Pharms + Sharps Workgroup – rachelp@productstewardship.us



The Packaging Problem

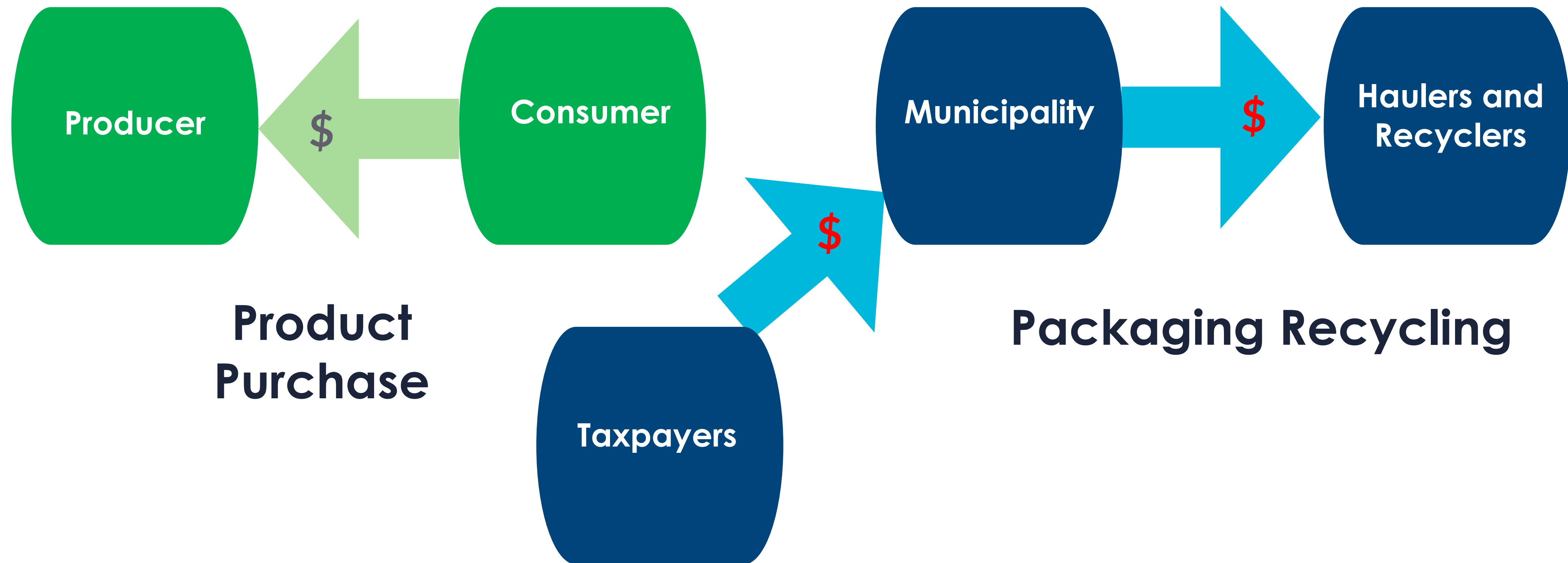


Market flooded
with packaging



Increasingly
complex materials

Our Fragmented System

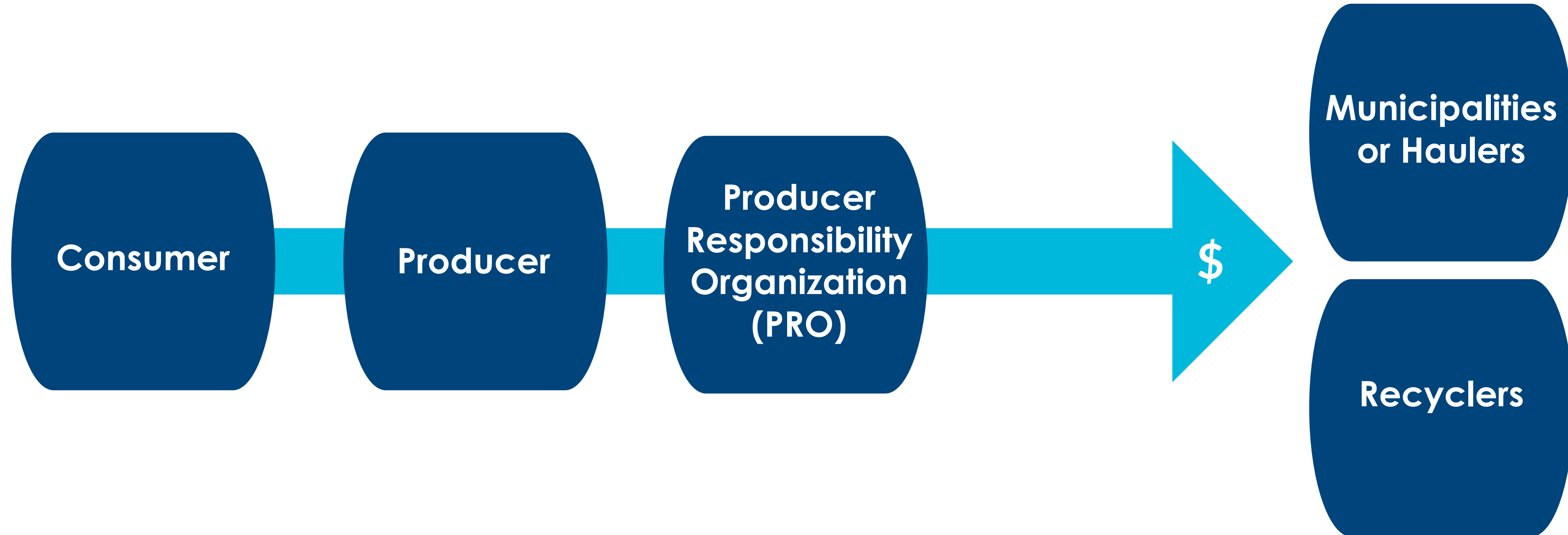


Shifting responsibility for PPP recycling **to producers**

Includes financial responsibility;
sometimes day-to-day management



EPR for PPP System

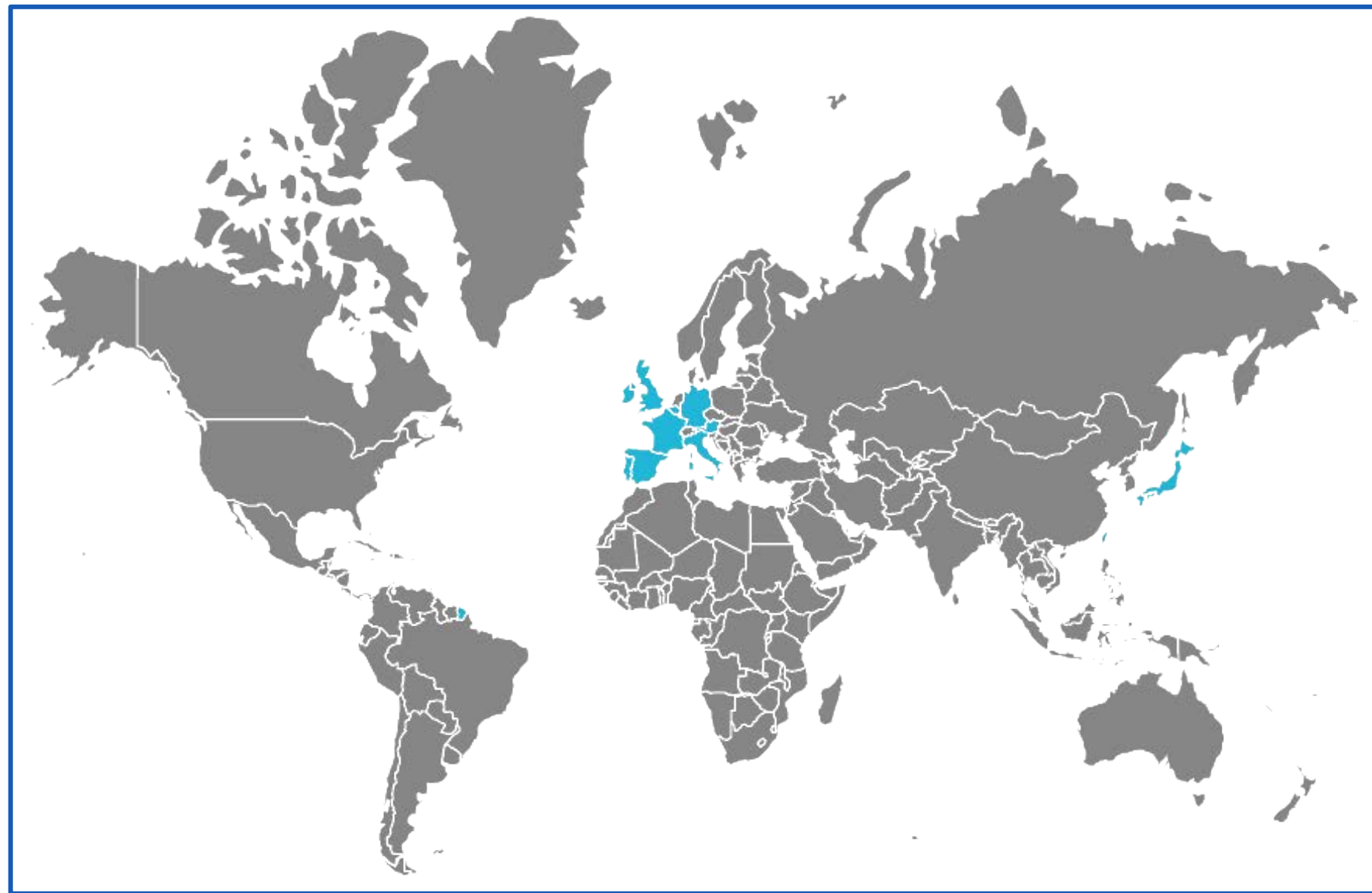


Providing
incentives
to design for the
environment

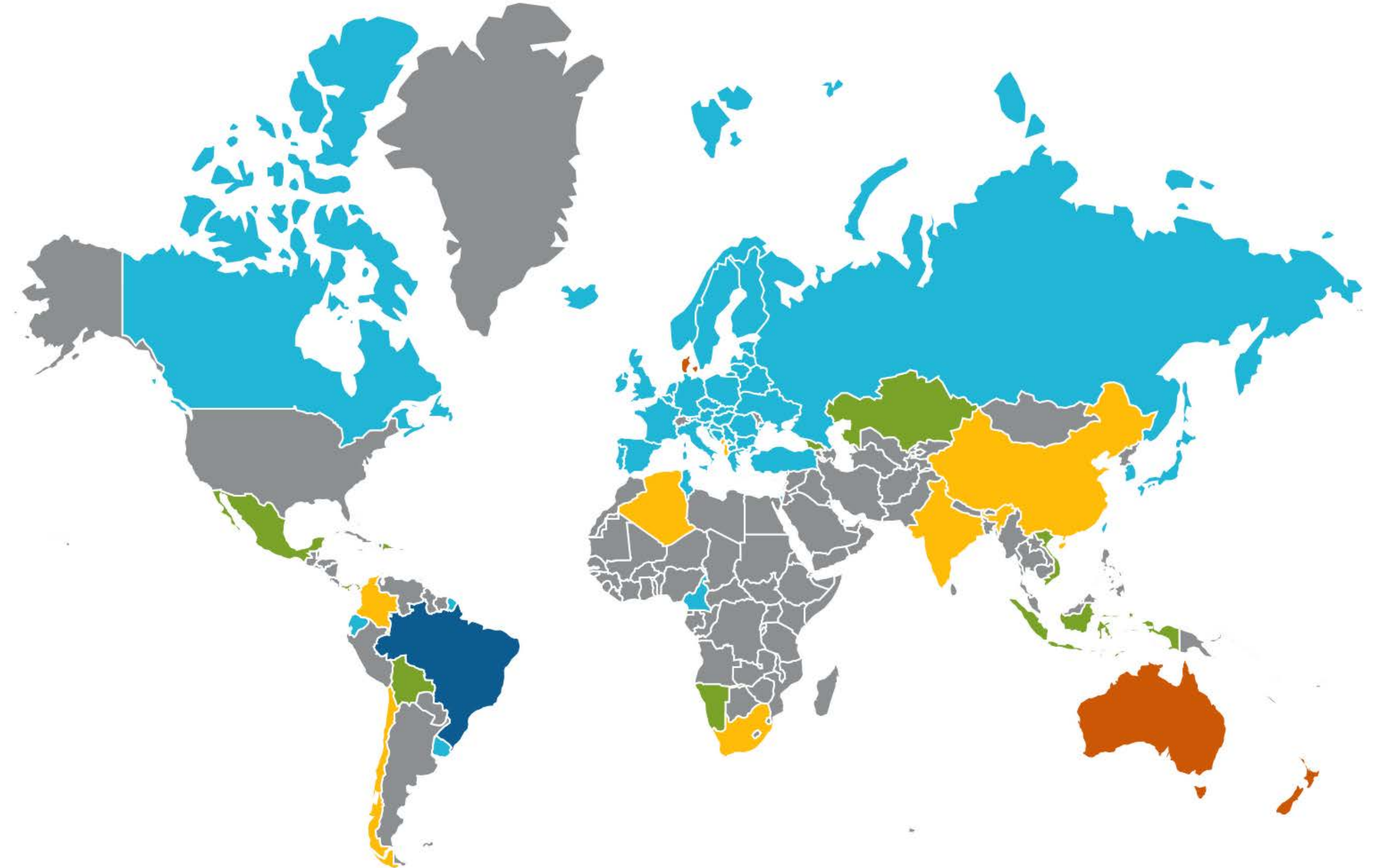


EPR for PPP: Spreading Worldwide

2000



2020



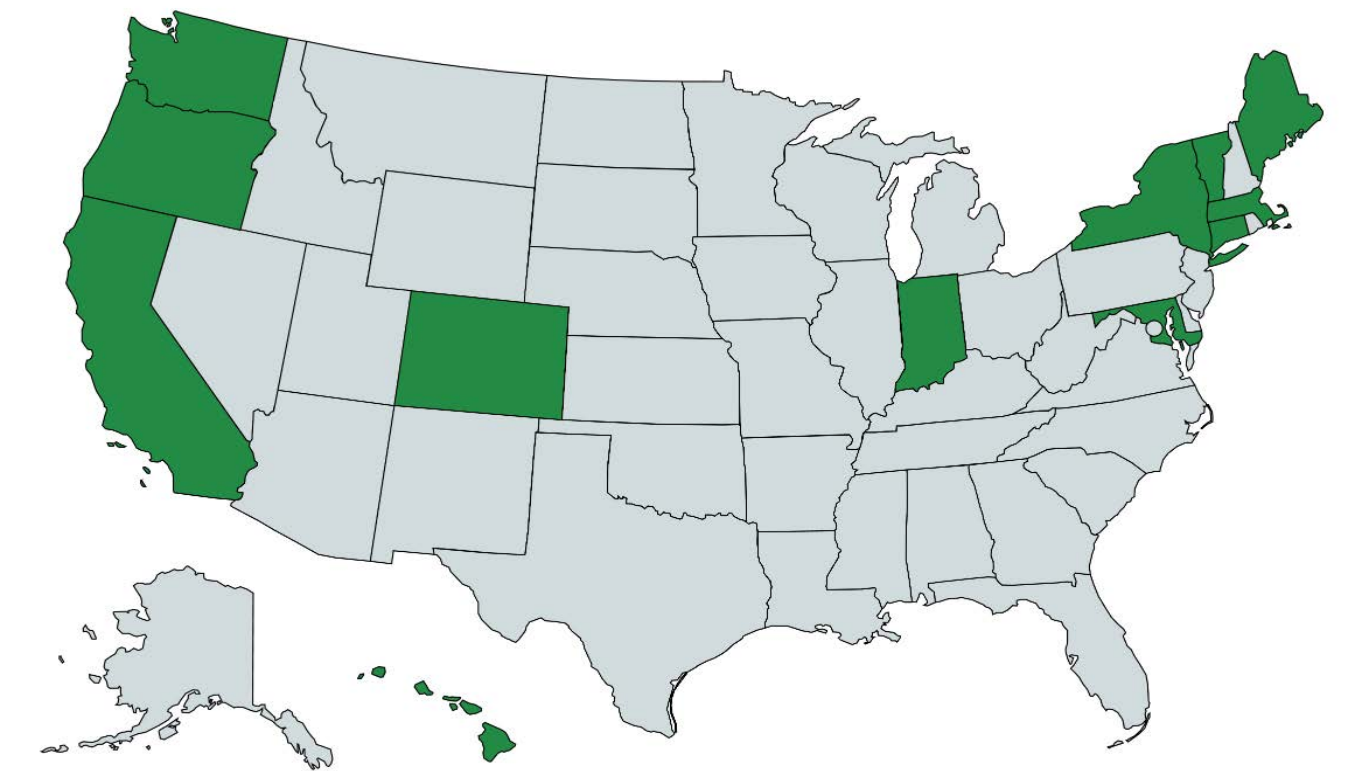
- Mandatory EPR in Effect
- Voluntary EPR in Effect
- EPR in Effect (province-level);
In Implementation (country-level)
- In Implementation
(India and China expected by 2022)
- Framework EPR Legislation

Map source:
June 2020

EPR for PPP: PSI Model in Action

State legislative activity (2019-20)

Packaging EPR activity in at least **12 states**



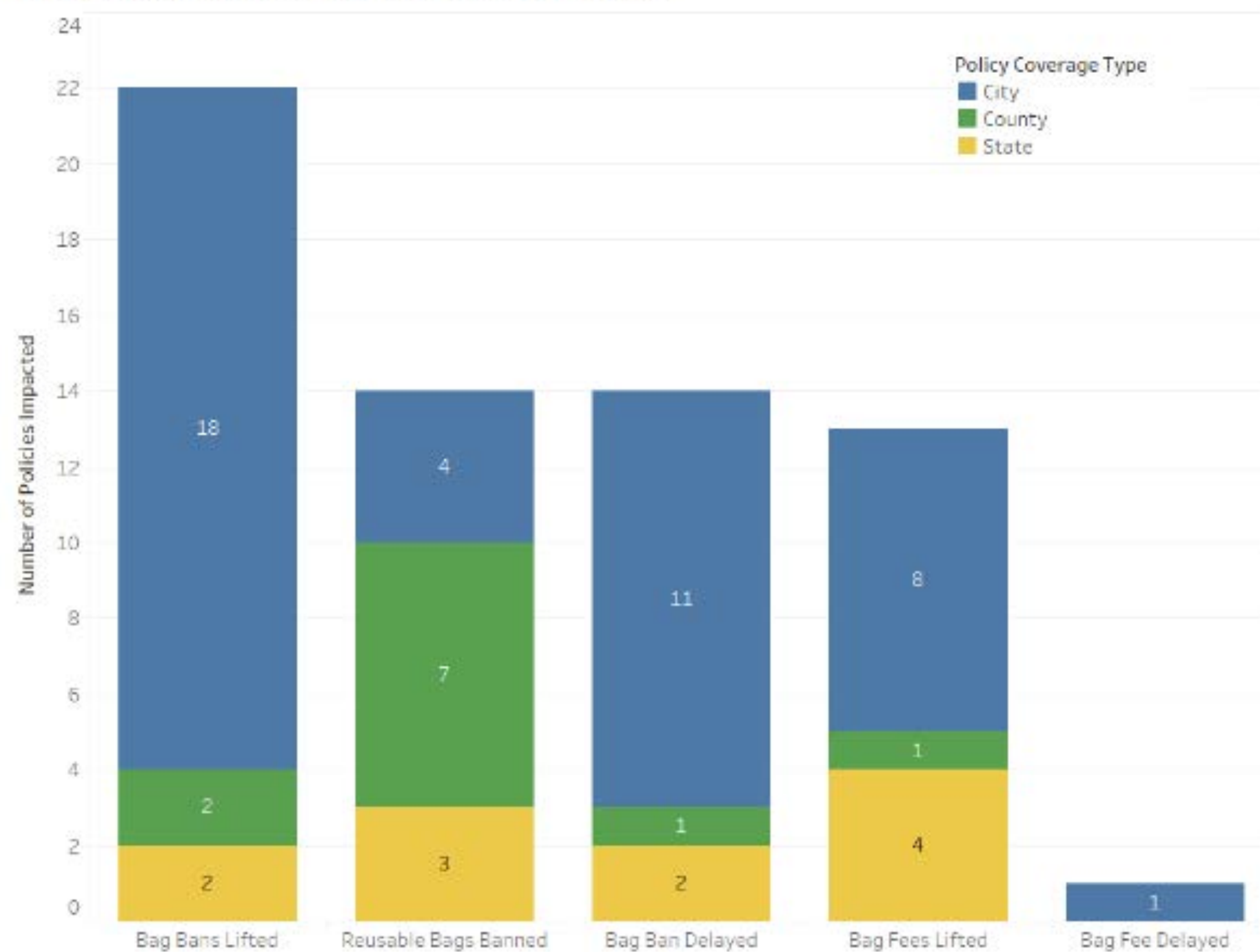
Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act

Federal Legislation by Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM) and Rep. Alan Lowenthal (D-CA)

- **EPR** for packaging
- national bottle bill
- bag ban + fee
- other single-use plastics bans

Single-Use Plastics and COVID

Plastic Bag Policies Impacted by COVID-19



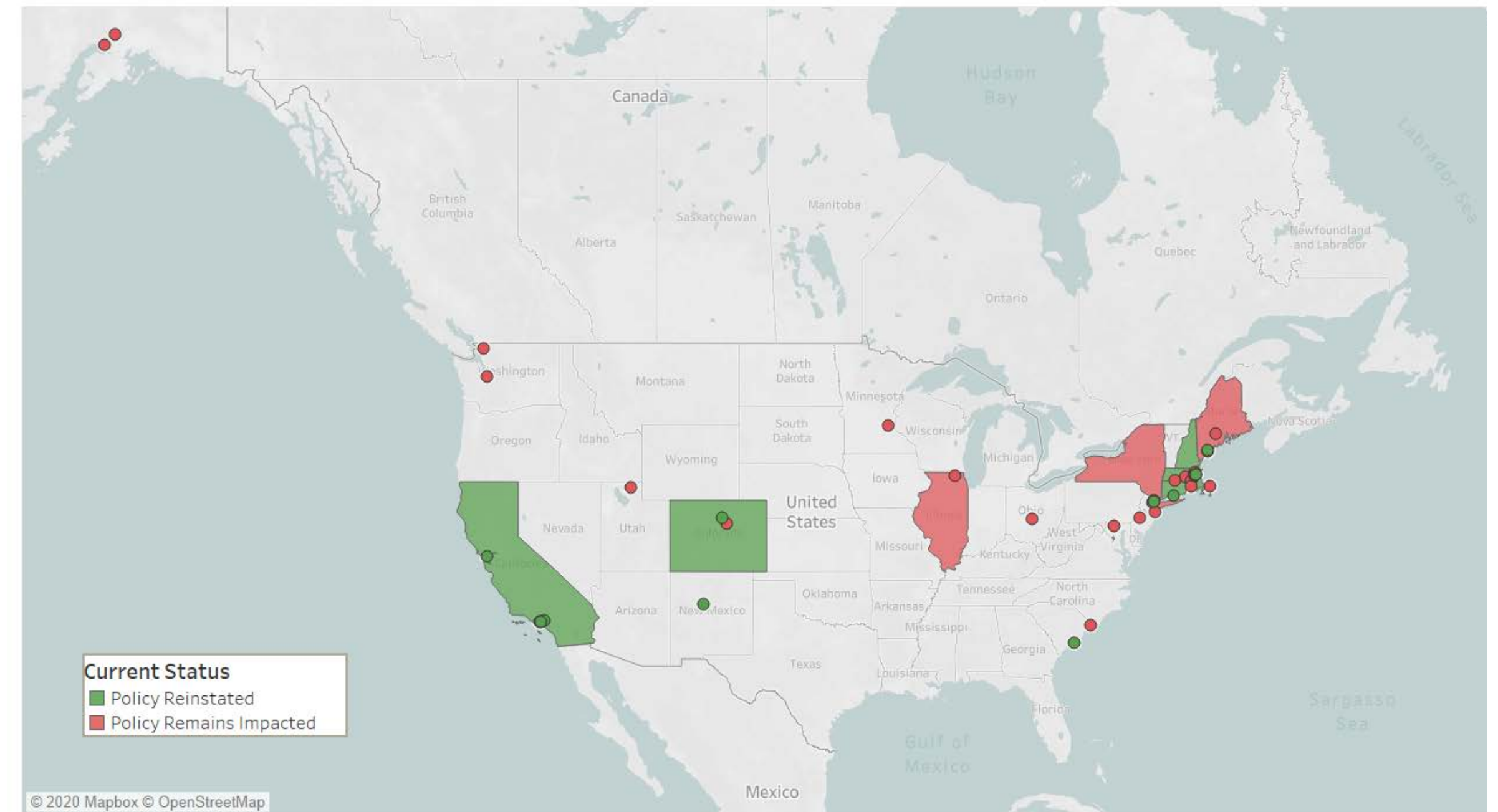
Since March, 79 policies rolling back restrictions on plastic bags and containers or banning reusable bags have been imposed in 22 states and the District of Columbia

As of September 1, 45 policies, or 57%, remain in effect, with more than a dozen extending through 2021

Single-Use Plastics and COVID (cont.)

- EPR has helped solid waste programs withstand turmoil
- Despite facing similar challenges, Canadian provinces with EPR have had fewer recycling disruptions
- Now is the best time to adopt EPR for packaging

Plastic Bag Policies Impacted By COVID-19 (Cities and States)



Supporting EPR for Plastics

- Make sure your municipality did *not* lift any waste reduction policies or single-use plastics bans/fees
- Support the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act (national EPR system)
- Support EPR for PPP bills in your state



Key Stakeholders

- Municipalities
- Producers
- Haulers
- Recyclers / Processors
- Retailers
- Environmental Groups
- Others
- **Facilitator, like PSI**



Thank You!

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