



October 28, 2025

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chair

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
Ranking Member

United States Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
562 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Testimony in Support of S. 2110, the REUSE Act of 2025

Dear Chair Capito, Ranking Member Whitehouse and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Glass Packaging Institute (GPI), I am pleased to offer our support and comments for S. 2110, the Research for Environmental Uses and Sustainable Economies (REUSE) Act of 2025, which would require the EPA to provide a comprehensive report on the reuse and refill systems for food and beverage containers, alongside other consumer facing products.

GPI is the North American trade association for the glass food and beverage manufacturing companies, glass recycling processors, raw material providers, and other supply chain partners within the industry.

Glass is an inert, 100% recyclable packaging material, proven for decades to be able to be re-washed and reused across beverage industries. Depending on the glass thickness and customer (brand) use, glass bottles may be re-washed and reused anywhere from 20-50 times, before needing to be crushed and recycled back into bottles. Dairy, beer and specialty beverage are just a few examples of beverage markets currently using refill and rewash systems.

Paired with an appropriate recycling system that separates materials for recycling and re-melting (bottle deposit, drop off collection and many single stream systems), reuse and refill programs can further enhance the sustainability features of glass, and also

work to reduce landfill disposal and their associated costs to local governments and consumers.

Intersection with State Recycling Programs

GPI appreciates the inclusion of Sec. (d) (1-2), *Considerations* for reuse and refill programs across state and local governments. The association and its members are actively engaged across state recycling programs, including states that have passed and are in the process of setting regulations under Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs for consumer-facing packaging.

Many of the EPR programs have reuse/refill incentives, and/or future requirements for glass and other covered packaging materials to utilize these systems. A national report outlining the reuse and refill systems currently in place, economic costs and benefits, barriers to implementation and equitable distribution of future systems will help inform regulators on infrastructure needs, and other elements of the refill systems required in order to make future regulations achievable.

To the best of our knowledge, the majority of the operating refill infrastructure systems for glass containers are collectively located nearby one another (consumer purchase/return site, wash/sanitation and beverage end markets). That noted, there remains a significant need for infrastructure refill and reuse investments across local and state governments, in order to provide broad coverage for future rewash/reuse incentives or requirements.

Also as directed in Sec. (d) (2), GPI looks forward to being a stakeholder in the consultation process with the EPA, as they gather information on reuse and refill systems, as directed.

Thank you again for considering our testimony, and we look forward to continuing working with the Committee and all stakeholders on reuse, refill and other container recovery systems.

Sincerely,



Scott DeFife
President