

3-POINT PLAN TO RECYCLE MORE PLASTIC AND STRENGTHEN AMERICAN MANUFACTURING

Plastic is indispensable to critical U.S. industries—automotive, aerospace, healthcare, electronics, and more. These sectors and the plastic industry itself are key drivers of American jobs and economic strength.

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Nearly 27% of U.S. manufacturing output comes from sectors where plastic makes up 5% or more of material inputs.



The plastic manufacturing sector employs 670,000 Americans, paying nearly \$50 billion in wages.



Critical industries that rely on plastic support nearly 5 million U.S. jobs and pay over \$391 billion in wages.



The plastic resin sector holds a nearly \$22 billion trade surplus, making it one of a limited number of U.S. industries that exports more than it imports.

Plastic manufacturers invest locally and power innovation that supports autos, homes, electronics, healthcare, and more.

In fact, multiple critical U.S. industries could not operate without a robust, reliable plastic supply but outdated policies and regulations limit our ability to recycle more plastic and expand American manufacturing.

Flip over to read the steps that federal policymakers can take to create a modern, pro-innovation framework.

01

Modernize Regulations to Accelerate U.S. Plastic Recycling and Manufacturing

To unleash U.S. recycling and manufacturing innovation, policymakers should:

- Regulate advanced recycling as manufacturing
- Classify plastic made via advanced recycling as recycled content
- Require EPA and FTC to update outdated guidelines and regulations to create regulatory certainty for recyclers and the brands that want to buy recycled plastic.

Clear, science-based rules can give American companies the confidence to invest in new recycling facilities and technologies that convert used plastic into new materials—again and again. These changes can unlock job growth, reduce waste, and make U.S. manufacturing more competitive.

02

Pass Smart Federal Legislation

To scale plastic recycling and support domestic supply chains, Congress should:

- **Establish national standards for plastic** recycling and access. Outdated infrastructure and inconsistent local systems make it difficult for companies to source recycled plastic—even as demand rises. National standards would:
 - Ensure household access to recycling
 - Clarify definitions of recycling and recycled content
 - Expand and modernize infrastructure across communities
- **Codify advanced recycling as manufacturing** and classify plastic made via advanced recycling as recycled content.

These steps would support U.S. industries—from automakers to construction—and create a more robust and consistent supply of recycled plastic for American manufacturers.



Learn more about advanced recycling and how it supports U.S. manufacturing.

03

Champion a Global Agreement on Plastic

America must lead in global negotiations to end plastic pollution while protecting our manufacturing and economic interests. U.S. engagement can lead to an agreement that creates more domestic jobs, fosters American innovation and prevents plastic from entering our environment.

- **The U.S. should champion a global agreement that:**
 - Focuses on ending pollution, not banning plastic
 - Supports country-specific action plans
 - Avoids overreach into chemical regulation, respecting existing global frameworks

A strong agreement can promote modern waste management, recycling infrastructure, and demand for recycled content—especially through advanced recycling—and deliver global solutions and strengthen American industry.

The U.S. has a chance to lead the world in recycling innovation, grow domestic jobs and manufacturing, and reduce plastic waste—all at once.

We support President Trump's commitment to American manufacturing. Now, we urge Congress and the Administration to act—by modernizing regulations, passing clear legislation, and leading global efforts that put America first.

This plan draws from **5 Actions for Sustainable Change**. Our goal is comprehensive federal legislation to support all five actions—and build a stronger, more sustainable future for U.S. recycling and manufacturing.

Scan to explore all 5 actions:

