



THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

By electronic mail

John Fischer
Deputy Division Director, Solid Waste Materials Management
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
One Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Proposed Regulatory Amendments to 310 CMR 19.000

Dear Mr. Fischer,

On behalf of the Zero Waste Caucus, we write to commend and thank you for the recently proposed regulatory amendments to 310 CMR 19.000. We greatly appreciate MassDEP's proactive action in promulgating these rules, which will add mattresses and textiles as materials banned from disposal and lower the threshold of the commercial food materials waste ban. Your commitment to strengthening our waste ban rules in the Commonwealth is admirable, and we fully support your efforts in this realm and encourage you to continue to look for ways to reduce waste in Massachusetts.

As a Caucus, we recognize the great importance of the work you do day in and day out at the Department of Environmental Protection. We also know that to carry out your mission takes adequate funding, which is why we sent the attached letter to House Ways and Means Chairman Michlewitz advocating for full funding for MassDEP as our top priority. We were pleased to see MassDEP funded at even higher levels in both the House and Senate budgets, and we will continue to advocate for this robust level of funding as the FY21 budget process progresses.

Moving forward, we plan to continue working in partnership with MassDEP in our collective efforts to reduce waste in the Commonwealth. Please never hesitate to let us know how we can be helpful to you in this endeavor. Thank you again for your dedication and hard work!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle Ciccolo".

Representative Michelle Ciccolo
15th Middlesex District
House Chair, Zero Waste Caucus

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Lewis".

Senator Jason Lewis
Fifth Middlesex District
Senate Chair, Zero Waste Caucus