



July 15, 2025

The Honorable Gary Palmer
Chairman, Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Environment
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Palmer,

On behalf of the Coalition to Protect Small Sellers (PASS Coalition), a coalition comprised of eBay, Etsy, Poshmark, Mercari, OfferUp, Redbubble and Whatnot, and the millions of sellers and digital marketplace entrepreneurs on their platforms, we applaud the Committees for holding this hearing to examine the current state of America's recycling industry. As the hearing title acknowledges, recycling is more than just the blue bins that so many of us see around our neighborhoods and it is encouraging to see this Committee call attention to the many aspects of recycling including its role in shaping America's global economic competitiveness. The PASS Coalition appreciates the opportunity to submit this letter to be included in the official record to call attention to elements of recycling that dovetail with the transformative power of recommerce within America's circular economy, encouraging benefit and participation at the individual and small-business level beyond just large scale industrial enterprises.

One of the challenges facing the recycling industry is diverting products from landfills or incineration. According to an analysis, each US consumer discards over 100 lbs. of textiles annually, with only around 15% of that being sent to recycling facilities. Similarly, we continue to see massive increases in the total amount of electronic devices and components (so-called e-waste) that find their way to landfills rather than being resold or recycled.

As this hearing examines the broader elements of recycling from innovation in recycling technologies as well as barriers - both mechanical and chemical - recyclers encounter; to new challenges and opportunities within the industry, PASS hopes the committee also considers how recommerce can be a critical component of the broader recycling ecosystem.

Recommerce—the repair, refurbishment and resale of goods and products—is a multifaceted complement to traditional recycling and a powerful force for sustainability and economic opportunity. It is also a rapidly growing industry that is anticipated to grow more than 55% over the next four years to become a \$291.6 billion dollar market. Digital platforms – like the companies that comprise the PASS coalition help drive this growth -- extend the lifecycle of countless products while simultaneously enabling sustainable entrepreneurship for millions of Americans.

As the Committee continues to examine the opportunities and benefits of the recycling industry, the PASS Coalition respectfully urges the Subcommittee to recognize that recommerce is a form

of recycling, with the added benefit of empowering individuals and entrepreneurs to earn extra income and acquire more affordable items, all while meeting the goals featured in this hearing. There is more than environmental impact from recycling, there are also significant economic considerations – both industrial and for individual entrepreneurs. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to these issues. The PASS Coalition is eager to collaborate with Congress to find solutions that marry small business growth with the environmental benefits of recycling and looks forward to working with this Committee in that endeavor.

Sincerely,

Chris Lamond

Chris Lamond
Executive Director
Coalition to Protect Small Sellers (PASS Coalition)