

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 14, 2017

Minnesota's Rep. Ellison to Take Stage at Resource Recycling Conference

U.S. Congressman behind national zero waste legislation will address North American recycling decision-makers Aug. 30 in Minneapolis.

One of the nation's emerging political leaders is set to lay out his vision for pushing ahead U.S. materials recovery.

Rep. Keith Ellison, D-MN, will be speaking during the closing session of the Resource Recycling Conference in Minneapolis in late August. The conference, which annually brings together North America's top recycling and composting executives and government officials, is taking place Aug. 28-30 at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis.

The closing session featuring Rep. Ellison is scheduled for 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 30 at the Hyatt Regency. The Congressman and other speakers will dive into the ways the country's current political environment is affecting materials recovery nationwide.

Ellison, who has represented Minnesota's fifth district in Congress since 2007, is an outspoken supporter of materials recovery on Capitol Hill. In February, he reintroduced legislation (H.R. 1034) aimed at developing a \$100 million grant program to support communities progressing waste prevention, reuse, recycling, composting and partnerships with domestic manufacturers that will use locally recycled materials.

He is also a rising star on Capitol Hill. Ellison is co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus and in February became co-chair of the Democratic National Committee. The Minnesota district he represents includes Minneapolis and the surrounding suburbs. According to his website, Ellison's Congressional priorities are promoting peace, prosperity for working families, environmental sustainability, and civil and human rights.

H.R. 1034, or the Zero Waste Development and Expansion Act, was reintroduced by Ellison on Feb. 15; it was first introduced in Congress in 2015. The legislation provides critical investment in infrastructure, technologies, and practices to prevent waste and promote recovery and reuse. It also helps support local businesses interested in eliminating wasteful practices and packaging, and it develops outreach and education programs.

The closing policy session at the Resource Recycling Conference is being organized by the National Recycling Coalition and the Recycling Association of Minnesota (RAM), both of which have been influential in securing participation from Rep. Ellison. Check in on the conference agenda page for all the latest on speakers and sessions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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ABOUT THE RESOURCE RECYCLING CONFERENCE

Produced by Portland, Ore.-based Resource Recycling Inc., the annual Resource Recycling Conference brings together leading municipal recycling decision-makers to evolve North American materials recovery. The 2017 conference will be the eighth iteration of the event and is scheduled for August 28-30 in Minneapolis, Minn.

For more information, visit www.rrconference.com.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL RECYCLING COALITION

The National Recycling Coalition is a nonprofit organization focused on promoting and enhancing recycling in the United States. Its network of more than 6,000 members extends across waste reduction, reuse, recycling and composting. The mission of the group is to partner with and facilitate activities between and among nonprofit organizations, businesses, trade associations, individuals and government to maintain a prosperous and productive American recycling system that is committed to the conservation of natural resources. Together, We Are Recycling.

For more information, visit www.nrcrecycles.org.

ABOUT THE RECYCLING ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA

The Recycling Association of Minnesota (RAM) was founded in 1989 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. RAM is a nonpartisan professional and public education organization where members from both the public and private sector can come together on neutral territory for educational and networking opportunities and to improve and promote recycling in Minnesota. RAM continues to be guided by its mission and vision along with input from its members, stakeholders and the public. For more information, visit www.recycleminnesota.org