

Financing Aspects of US Systems

IEMN 2014

Jason Linnell
Executive Director
National Center for Electronics Recycling



National Center for Electronics Recycling

- **Non-profit 501c3**
- **Located in Parkersburg, WV**
- **Involved in Federal, State & Association Projects**
- **Conduct Research, Run Collection Programs**
- **Partner with NERC on Electronics Recycling
Coordination Clearinghouse**
- **Manage Oregon State Contractor Program**
- **Our Mission: Dedicated to the development
and enhancement of a national
infrastructure for the recycling of used
electronics in the U.S.**



Overview

- **Electronics Recycling in the US**
- **US State Electronics Recycling Laws**
- **Conclusions and Outlook**



Overview of US Electronics Recycling

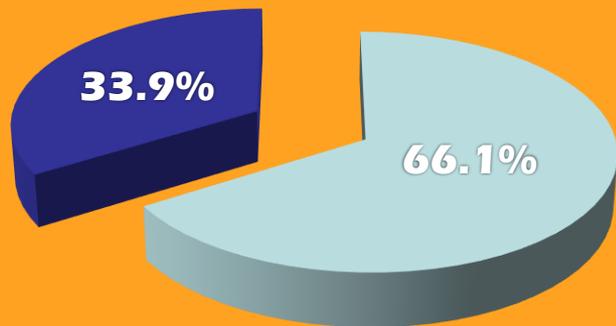
- **Limited activity 15-20 years ago**
- **First programs local level, financed by local govt or recyclers**
- **Small recyclers became larger, or larger scrap companies involved**
- **Manufacturer takeback started approximately 10 years ago, along with State Laws**
- **Now financed in 25 states by law program**



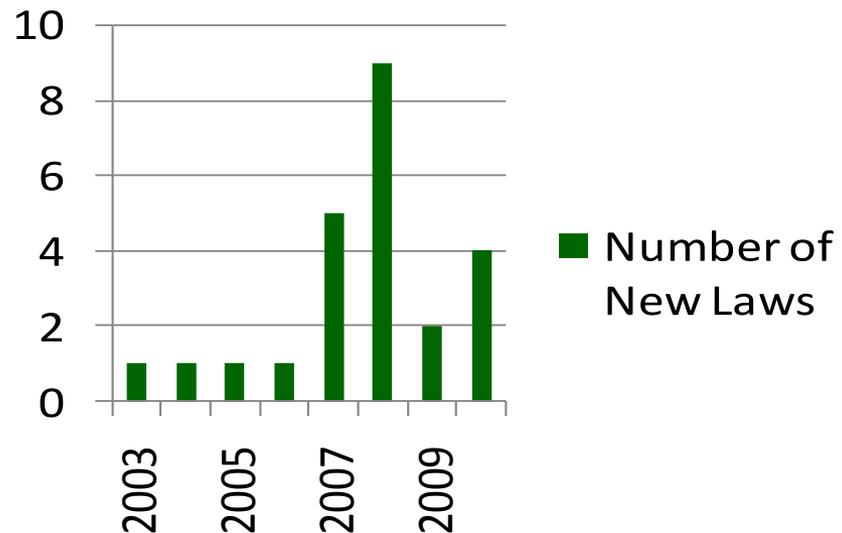
25 STATE PROGRAM LAWS

- 2003: California
- 2004: Maine
- 2005: Maryland
- 2006: Washington
- 2007: Connecticut, Minnesota, Oregon, Texas, North Carolina
- 2008*: New Jersey, Oklahoma, Virginia, W. Virginia, Missouri, Hawaii, Rhode Island, Illinois, Michigan
- 2009: Indiana, Wisconsin
- 2010: Vermont, South Carolina, New York, Pennsylvania
- 2011: Utah

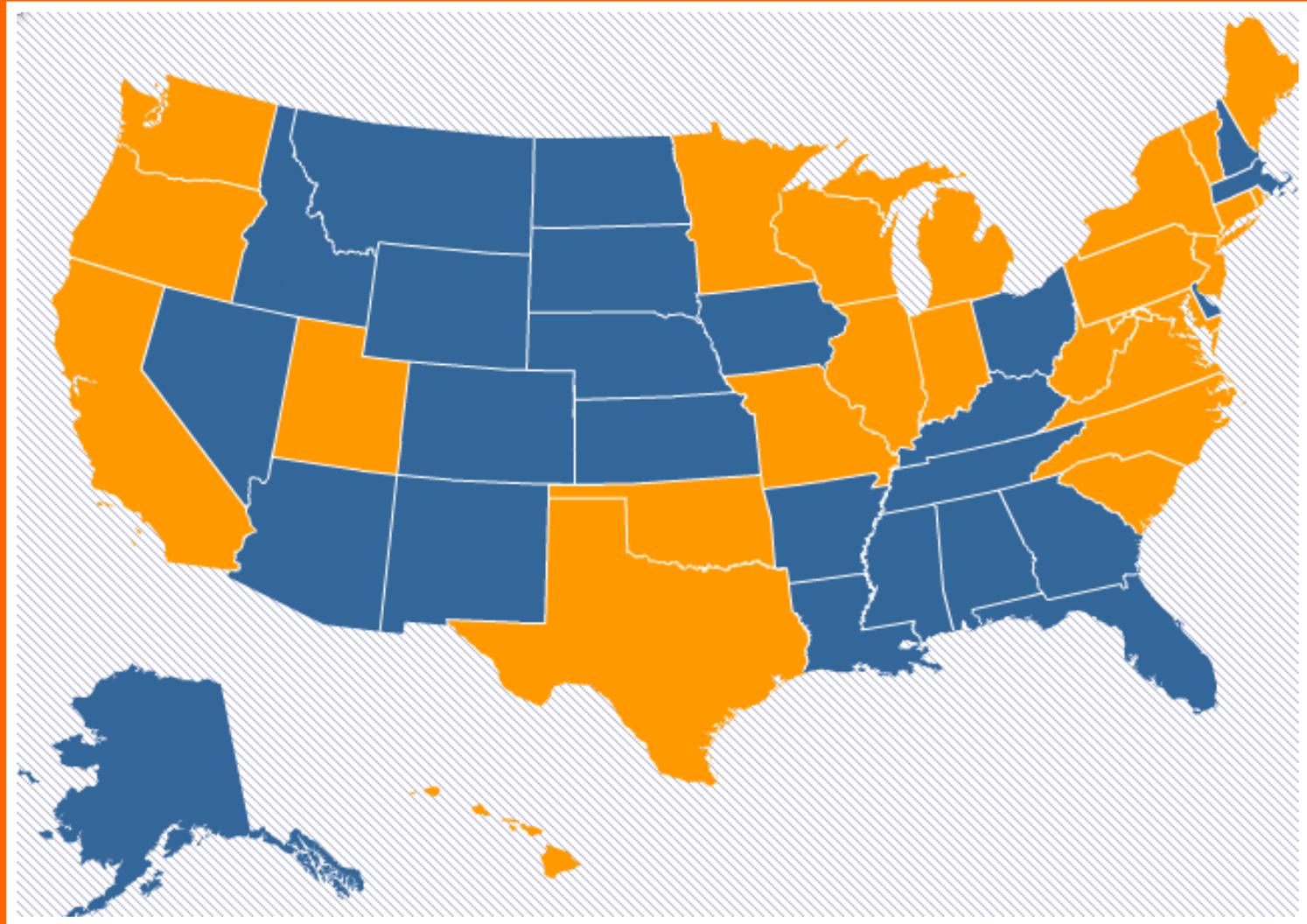
Percentage of Population Covered by E-Scrap Law



Number of New Laws



States With E-Scrap Laws



States highlighted in orange have some type of electronics recycling program law

Key Characteristics of US Laws

- **No federal laws, patchwork of state approaches**
- **Limited set of products as covered “e-waste”**
 - TV, computers, monitors, printers
- **Financing mostly through Extended Producer Responsibility, but many approaches**
- **Administrative costs – combination of state agency and manufacturers**
 - Most states charges admin/registration fee to manufacturer
 - Manufacturers also pay compliance orgs/recyclers

Financing Mechanisms of US State Laws

- **1st State Law – separate fee on products**
- **All others: EPR variations, manufacturer pays in some form**
 - **Who is the “manufacturer” under the law?**
- **Return Share, Market Share, combination**
 - **Oregon example**
- **For others, no financing specified one specified**

Financing outside of state law programs and incentives

- **Still many recycling programs in other 25 states**
 - **Manufacturer/retailer programs**
 - **Local government**
 - **Online mailback programs**
- **What are the incentives?**
 - **Resale value – phones/tablets only \$ to consumer**
 - **Commodity value – metals in boards, computers**
 - **But, CRTs negative value, no “incentive” unless funded**

Challenges Going Forward

- **Key Challenges with financing mechanisms and incentives in the US**
 - Pounds-based costs, but product light-weighting trend continues
 - Dealing with materials with limited markets, i.e. CRTs
 - Keeping track of new manufacturers, emerging products

Thank You!

Jason Linnell, NCER

Phone: (304) 699-1008

jlinnell@electronicsrecycling.org

Visit us on the web:

www.electronicrecycling.org

and www.ecycleclearinghouse.org