



## 2026 Board of Directors Nominees

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## Brendan Adams, Kraft Heinz



**Bio:** Brendan Adams has been with Kraft Heinz since 2019 and serves as Associate Director, Government Affairs. He leads U.S. advocacy on circular economy and sustainable packaging policy, focusing on effective recycling systems and credible end markets for recycled content. His work spans recycled-content standards, recycling and labeling claims, recycling technologies, and extended producer responsibility (EPR). He also leads engagement on trade and tariff policy affecting packaging inputs and supply chains. He partners with policymakers, industry peers, and NGOs to develop practical, science-based solutions that improve recycling outcomes and advance packaging circularity. Adams is an active leader within AMERIPEN, serving on the Board of Directors and chairing the Government Affairs

Committee, helping drive the organization's federal and state policy strategy. He also serves on the Board of the EPR Leadership Forum and participates in the Closed Loop Partners Composting Consortium Policy Work Group, the U.S. Plastics Pact Policy Work Stream, and the Consumer Goods Forum Plastic Waste Coalition of Action and EPR Working Group. Previously, he held government affairs and legislative roles at Corning Incorporated, the Transportation Intermediaries Association, and the U.S. Mint (U.S. Department of the Treasury). He holds a B.A. from Allegheny College and a master's degree from George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management.

**Where are you/is your company in the packaging value chain?** Consumer packaged goods brand

**Which packaging material(s) do you/your company primarily buy/use/sell?** Fiber, Glass, Metals, Plastics

**What is the greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry?** The greatest policy challenge is the fragmented patchwork of state packaging, EPR, and recycling laws. Inconsistent definitions and requirements—such as what qualifies as “recyclable” or “compostable,” rules for labeling and marketing claims, and recycled-content mandates—create confusion for consumers and regulators and drive higher compliance costs for brands and retailers operating nationally. This fragmentation also reduces investment certainty for collection, sorting, and end markets, and it can produce uneven outcomes across states without reliably improving recycling system performance.

**What, if anything, can and should AMERIPEN do to address this challenge?** AMERIPEN should continue building on its efforts to address the fragmented patchwork of state packaging, EPR, and recycling laws by serving as a neutral convener and technical resource focused on harmonization and measurable system outcomes. Specifically, AMERIPEN should (1) strengthen coalition efforts



to align stakeholders around well-designed EPR principles and consistent program design; (2) continue efforts to advance the PACK Act to promote nationally consistent definitions and substantiation standards for “recyclable,” “compostable,” and “reusable” claims, reducing consumer confusion and compliance complexity for national brands; (3) develop and promote model policy elements—grounded in lessons learned from existing programs—that states can adopt to reduce state-by-state divergence; and (4) elevate data-driven infrastructure and end-market solutions that improve real-world recycling outcomes, including validated pathways for hard-to-recycle materials, while accounting for packaging’s essential role in product protection and safety across diverse applications.

**How long have you been active with AMERIPEN and in what ways have you been engaged, i.e., attended past Annual Summits, committee member, etc.?** I have been active with AMERIPEN since 2021, serving on the Board of Directors since 2022 and as Chair of the Government Affairs Committee since 2024. In these roles, I have supported AMERIPEN’s federal and state advocacy—contributing to policy development and stakeholder engagement on EPR, recycled content requirements, packaging requirements and restrictions, labeling claims, and PACK Act engagement. I have also participated in federal and state legislative fly-ins to advocate for policies that promote a circular economy, including serving as a group leader for several fly-ins, and I have served as a speaker at AMERIPEN Annual Summits and as a breakout-session team lead.

**If elected, what contribution would you bring to AMERIPEN as a member of the Board of Directors?** If re-elected, I would help AMERIPEN sharpen strategy and execution across federal and state policy priorities, translating AMERIPEN’s positions into clear, actionable advocacy plans and supporting consistent, effective engagement with policymakers. I would bring an industry-wide view to capture synergies with other organizations and build consensus, value-chain-aligned positions that are practical to implement across diverse member interests, particularly on EPR, recycled content requirements, labeling/claims, and packaging requirements and restrictions. I would also help advance AMERIPEN’s priorities through coalition letters and coordinated advocacy. Finally, I would help ensure AMERIPEN’s priorities deliver measurable sustainability outcomes while reflecting supply-chain and cost realities—advancing credible solutions that close the circularity gap, including for harder-to-recycle materials.

## CJ Stolle, Amazon



**Bio:** CJ Stolle leads U.S. circular economy public policy at Amazon including extended producer responsibility, packaging sustainability, plastics, textiles and chemical issues at the local, state, and federal levels. She has worked in government affairs for over fifteen years, holding a variety of roles in both government and private business. CJ earned a Master's degree in International Relations and Bachelor's degrees in French and Spanish from Old Dominion University. Outside of work, you're most likely to find CJ and her husband, Graham, cheering for their three daughters at soccer fields and swimming pools across Virginia.

**Where are you/is your company in the packaging value chain?**

Distributor of packaging and/or packaged goods, Consumer packaged goods brand, Retailer of consumer packaged goods

**Which packaging material(s) do you/your company primarily buy/use/sell?** Fiber, Glass, Plastics

**What is the greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry?** The greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry is the fragmentation of packaging EPR at the state level. With seven states having enacted packaging EPR laws since 2021, each with distinct producer definitions, fee structures, covered materials, timelines, and reporting requirements, producers face an increasingly complex patchwork of compliance obligations. This fragmentation drives up costs without proportional environmental benefits, creates operational confusion for companies operating across multiple jurisdictions, and risks undermining the very recycling and waste reduction outcomes these programs intend to achieve. The lack of a cohesive federal framework means each new state that considers EPR legislation becomes another opportunity for inconsistency, with over 50 packaging EPR bills introduced across 17 states in 2025 alone. For producers, converters, and retailers alike, this trajectory threatens to make compliance the primary focus rather than actual environmental improvement, diverting resources from innovation in sustainable materials and circular systems toward navigating regulatory complexity.

**What, if anything, can and should AMERIPEN do to address this challenge?** AMERIPEN is already doing exceptional work on this front and should continue building on its momentum. At the state level, AMERIPEN has proven itself as a key negotiator on packaging EPR legislation, securing meaningful wins in Minnesota, Washington, and Maryland by advocating for well-designed programs with consistent design principles. This defensive work, ensuring new laws incorporate reasonable producer definitions, workable timelines, and shared responsibility frameworks, is critical and should remain a priority as states like New Jersey, New York, and Virginia consider legislation. Equally important is AMERIPEN's work at the federal level to advance



a more unified framework that can reduce fragmentation and establish consistent standards across jurisdictions. AMERIPEN is uniquely positioned as the only material-inclusive packaging policy association in the U.S. to convene the full value chain around model legislation principles that promote harmonization. Continuing to develop and advocate for standardized definitions, reporting requirements, and program design elements (whether through federal legislation or interstate coordination) will be essential to preventing the compliance patchwork from becoming unmanageable.

**How long have you been active with AMERIPEN and in what ways have you been engaged, i.e., attended past Annual Summits, committee member, etc.?** Amazon has been an active AMERIPEN member for nearly four years, and I am proud to have been the internal champion who advocated for our membership. Amazon was the first retailer member to join AMERIPEN, bringing a unique perspective from the e-commerce and marketplace space. Since joining, I have attended every Annual Summit and have actively contributed to the organization's mission. I secured a packaging keynote speaker from Amazon for an annual meeting, helping to showcase the innovations our industry is driving. Beyond events, I serve on both the Government Affairs Committee and the Regulatory Affairs Committee, where I contribute to AMERIPEN's legislative strategy and regulatory engagement on an ongoing basis. Through these roles, I have been engaged in the weekly legislative and regulatory discussions that inform AMERIPEN's advocacy positions across priority states.

**If elected, what contribution would you bring to AMERIPEN as a member of the Board of Directors?** Amazon brings an unmatched breadth of perspective to the packaging value chain. We touch virtually every packaging material type and format, from corrugated and paper mailers to flexible plastics and padded envelopes, across millions of shipments daily. Our Robotics, Delivery, and Packaging Innovation team is actively innovating, having launched plastics-free fulfillment facilities, developed curbside-recyclable paper-based packaging alternatives, and pioneered programs like Ship in Product Packaging that eliminate secondary packaging entirely. As both a direct shipper and a marketplace facilitating hundreds of thousands of third-party sellers, Amazon has a unique vantage point across the full supply and value chain of packaging, from material sourcing and design through fulfillment, delivery, and end-of-life management. This position allows me to bring insights on how packaging policies impact not just large producers but the small and medium-sized businesses that are the backbone of American commerce. I would leverage this perspective to help AMERIPEN develop positions that are practical, scalable, and drive genuine environmental outcomes.

## Gabby Shah, Procter & Gamble



**Bio:** Gabby Shah is Senior Manager, Government Relations at Procter & Gamble. She leads state government relations across 14 Western U.S. states and serves as the government relations lead for P&G Ventures. In her role, Gabby works on state legislation affecting consumer products and packaging, engaging with policymakers, regulators, trade associations, and industry partners. She brings more than 15 years of experience translating complex policy into practical business and compliance strategies. Prior to joining P&G GR team, Gabby worked on packaging sustainability and extended producer responsibility and held senior technical and regulatory roles in the nuclear energy sector focused on

safety, waste management, and compliance. She holds a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering from McGill University. She lives in Northern Kentucky with her partner, Nathan, and their puppy, Mochi. In her free time, she enjoys watching cricket, trivia, cooking and creating sketch comedy.

**Where are you/is your company in the packaging value chain?** Consumer packaged goods brand

**Which packaging material(s) do you/your company primarily buy/use/sell?** Fiber, Glass, Plastics

**What is the greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry?** The greatest policy challenge is the rapid growth of state packaging legislation with significant variation across jurisdictions. This creates compliance risk and cost uncertainty, while not always delivering improved system performance or environmental outcomes.

**What, if anything, can and should AMERIPEN do to address this challenge?** AMERIPEN can help by promoting data driven, implementation ready policy design and by helping policymakers better understand how recycling and packaging systems function in practice. Greater consistency across states and a focus on measurable outcomes would reduce fragmentation and improve results. AMERIPEN's material inclusive, value chain wide approach enables collaboration that supports more workable and effective policy.

**How long have you been active with AMERIPEN and in what ways have you been engaged, i.e., attended past Annual Summits, committee member, etc.?** I engage with AMERIPEN through my work at P&G (indirectly for 5 years, directly for 6 months), including participation in state policy tracking discussions and regular legislative and regulatory updates. I also work closely with AMERIPEN member companies and partner associations on coordinated state policy engagement.



**If elected, what contribution would you bring to AMERIPEN as a member of the Board of Directors?** If elected, I would bring deep experience in state government relations, legislative implementation, and cross functional coordination at a time when state packaging policy is expanding rapidly, often with differing structures, definitions, and timelines. In my current role, I work closely with state policymakers and regulators as well as internal teams across legal, technical, business, and communications to assess how proposed legislation translates into real world operational, cost, and compliance impacts. As a Board member, my focus would be on strengthening AMERIPEN's effectiveness as a practical, credible voice with policymakers and advancing workable, state specific solutions. My ability to translate technical packaging concepts into actionable government relations and advocacy strategies would help leverage the collective expertise and influence of AMERIPEN's members to drive durable, defensible policy outcomes.

## George Southworth, Mondelez International



**Bio:** George Southworth is the Deputy Director, US Government Affairs at Mondelez International. George began his career in Washington, DC on Capitol Hill for two different members of the U.S. House of Representatives. Prior to joining Mondelez, George was the Executive Director of the Flavor & Extract Manufacturers Association (FEMA) where he worked closely with ingredient suppliers, flavor houses and consumer product goods companies on a variety of issues. In addition, George has a background in plastics, sustainability and packaging from his time spent as Senior Director at the Plastics Industry Association (PLASTICS) directly charged with the efforts of the Processors Council. George worked at IBM as a Governmental Programs Executive responsible for strategic relationships between the U.S. Congress as well as key state legislatures and the IBM Corporation. As a lobbyist, George worked closely with key senior executives to develop and execute legislative strategies both on the state and federal level. In addition, George was a member of IBM's Export Regulation Office, managing the defense trade compliance program and leading export compliance audits for IBM in the US and abroad. In total, he spent 8 years in the corporate world. George's background also includes several years working for the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) in two different capacities. He was first Director, Public Affairs where he developed and managed a variety of grassroots advocacy programs and employee engagement opportunities for small, mid-sized, and large manufacturers. He later served as the Regional Manager for NAM's Field Division where he managed the large membership portfolio of corporations based in NY and succeeded in leading efforts to promote the members' top priorities. George graduated from Clark University in Worcester, MA, with a BA in political science and a minor in Spanish.

**Where are you/is your company in the packaging value chain?** Consumer packaged goods brand

**Which packaging material(s) do you/your company primarily buy/use/sell?** Fiber, Plastics, Metals

**What is the greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry?** Beyond EPR, governments are implementing increasingly stringent recycling mandates, particularly with regard to recycled content in new packaging, thereby compelling the industry to cultivate robust markets for secondary materials.

**What, if anything, can and should AMERIPEN do to address this challenge?** This can be done through four areas: 1) proactive policy advocacy and engagement; 2) industry education; 3) market innovation; and, 4) collaboration and partnership.



**How long have you been active with AMERIPEN and in what ways have you been engaged, i.e., attended past Annual Summits, committee member, etc.?** During my tenure over the past year, I have demonstrated a strong commitment to the association's objectives. I've actively contributed to a diverse range of committees, notably playing a key role in the foundational work of the recently created Chemicals in Packaging Working Group. My engagement also included participation in the Annual Summit, further deepening my understanding of the industry's evolving landscape.

**If elected, what contribution would you bring to AMERIPEN as a member of the Board of Directors?** I believe my value to this Board lies in offering a unique perspective, informed by direct engagement within the CPG sector. I can provide consumer insights to interpret market trends, while concurrently highlighting the practical challenges involved in scaling packaging innovations, impacting supply chain, and implementing viable end-of-life strategies. I can leverage my experience with evolving regulations to contribute best practices in crafting and executing sustainable packaging roadmaps that deliver tangible results. Lastly, I can contribute to the association's dialogue with policymakers. This ensures that regulatory discussions are thoroughly grounded in practical business implications, fostering a unified and more impactful voice for the entirety of the packaging value chain.

## Kristin Edie, Charter Next Generation



**Bio:** Kristin Edie is Director of Sustainability & Regulatory at Charter Next Generation (CNG), where she leads the company's efforts to advance sustainable material science, regulatory compliance, and environmentally responsible product innovation. In this role, Kristin plays a key part in shaping CNG's approach to sustainability and regulatory strategy, helping to align business objectives with evolving environmental standards and industry best practices. She also represents CNG on the Executive Committee of the Sustainable Packaging Coalition (SPC), where she contributes to steering the future of sustainable packaging through cross-industry

collaboration and thought leadership. Prior to joining Charter Next Generation, Kristin held a variety of leadership roles in product quality and regulatory, procurement, and sustainability at Hallmark, including an extensive overseas assignment based in Hallmark's Asia supply chain. Through her career she has developed deep expertise in global procurement, regulatory compliance, continuous improvement, and sustainable supply chain strategies. Kristin holds a BS in paper engineering from Western Michigan University, an MBA from the University of Kansas, and a Master of Studies in Sustainability Leadership from Cambridge University.

**Where are you/is your company in the packaging value chain?** Packaging converter/supplier

**Which packaging material(s) do you/your company primarily buy/use/sell?** Plastics

**What is the greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry?** Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR): EPR regulations are causing fundamental shifts as the packaging industry and our customers adapt to minimize fees and meet source reduction targets. To meet recycling rate targets, the industry needs to actively upgrade our recycling infrastructure and build end markets demand for harder to recycle packaging materials. Labeling Regulation: A second policy challenge is related to state labeling regulations, especially in California. SB343 set a high bar for defining recyclable by requiring 60% of California residents to have curbside recycling access. In addition, compostable labeling regulations in California are a challenge due to the upcoming requirement for all compostable packaging to meet the National Organic Standard (AB1201), which is over and above BPI certification. Chemical Regulation: A third policy challenge is the focus on chemicals found in packaging, including microplastics. A recent Netflix documentary on the linkages of these chemicals to human fertility, as well as bipartisan interest in the topic, are likely to lead to further regulation. Notable areas of regulatory risk are the proposed removal of the FDA's GRAS self-approval for chemicals and the likely addition of microplastics to California's Candidate Chemical list in 2026.

**What, if anything, can and should AMERIPEN do to address this challenge?** Advocate for Consistency: I recommend AMERIPEN continue to advocate with CAA and states for regulatory consistency in EPR programs, such as around definitions, source reduction targets, and recycling rate expectations. Federal regulation for labeling is key to driving consistency. The PACK Act is a great initiative. In addition, supporting the Recycled Material Attribution Act (RMAA), which proposed federal standards for recycled content claims and encourages updates to the Green Guides is another opportunity. Finally, microplastics is emerging as a critical issue for industry. There is lack of consistency in the test method for microplastics. AMERIPEN may want to propose one test method as the industry standard. This may be in our interest before non-industry players identify a standard test method for us. Identify Regulatory Flexibility: I would encourage AMERIPEN to facilitate industry collaboration to advocate for more time to reach EPR targets, especially for SB54. As I understand it, according to Public Resources Code §42062, CalRecycle can reassess recycling rate targets starting in 2026 and every two years after to align them more closely with actual recycling infrastructure growth and development. In addition, CalRecycle may have the authority to approve exemptions for covered materials facing “unique challenges” complying with SB54.

**How long have you been active with AMERIPEN and in what ways have you been engaged, i.e., attended past Annual Summits, committee member, etc.?** I have been involved more closely with AMERIPEN since joining Charter Next Generation (CNG). However, my previous employer, Hallmark, was also a member. I am currently on the AMERIPEN Annual Summit Planning Committee and plan to attend both the summit and fly-in this June. I participate on the AMERIPEN legislative update calls and recently joined the Chemicals in Packaging Working Group. I feel AMERIPEN is the one of the most valuable organizational memberships CNG currently has to support the regulatory priorities of our industry.

**If elected, what contribution would you bring to AMERIPEN as a member of the Board of Directors?** I would like to bring members of the board of directors together to advance AMERIPEN's policy priorities. Given the continual evolution of the regulatory environment, I truly believe collaboration across sectors and packaging material types to develop innovative solutions and educate regulators is the key to our combined success as an industry. Since joining the packaging industry, I have noticed competition among the various packaging material providers (paper, plastic, metal), but I am certain we all play an important role in our shared future. I started my career in the paper industry and have a degree in Paper Engineering from Western Michigan University. I spent many years working for Hallmark, which is a large paper printer/converter. Now, I am working in the plastic packaging industry because I believe plastic packaging delivers strong benefits, such as within our food supply chain. Driving plastic packaging to full circularity must be a top sustainability priority for the industry.

## Lauren Aguilar, McDonald's



**Bio:** Lauren Aguilar is the Director of State and Local Government Relations for McDonald's, overseeing policy strategy and advocacy on issues critical to sustainability, packaging, and recycling. She brings more than a decade of experience advancing well-thought-out packaging policy, modernizing recycling infrastructure, and shaping extended producer responsibility frameworks at the state and local level. Her background includes serving as a contract lobbyist for packaging-focused associations, consumer brand companies, packaging manufacturers, and recyclers, as well as six years in the California State Legislature in both the Assembly and Senate. Lauren is recognized for building cross-sector coalitions, aligning corporate priorities with evolving regulatory landscapes, and driving solutions that balance environmental responsibility with business innovation. She earned her degree in Political Science with a minor in War and Peace Studies from the University of California, Davis.

**Where are you/is your company in the packaging value chain?** Consumer packaged goods brand

**Which packaging material(s) do you/your company primarily buy/use/sell?** Fiber, Plastics

**What is the greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry?** The single biggest policy issue facing the packaging industry today is the rapid expansion and fragmented implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility and related packaging mandates.

**What, if anything, can and should AMERIPEN do to address this challenge?** AMERIPEN should continue to serve as the leading voice of the packaging industry by driving alignment in an increasingly fragmented policy environment. That means: Championing harmonized frameworks across states and at the federal level; ensuring policies are data-driven, practical, and scalable; and bridging the gap between policymakers, industry, and NGOs to advance solutions that improve recycling outcomes without creating unnecessary burden.

**How long have you been active with AMERIPEN and in what ways have you been engaged, i.e., attended past Annual Summits, committee member, etc.?** I have been actively engaged with AMERIPEN for the past 6.5 years, including five years serving as a contract lobbyist supporting the association. In that role, I worked directly with AMERIPEN and its member companies to navigate complex policy environments and advance industry priorities. My engagement has evolved over time, I've participated in AMERIPEN lobby days both as a consultant and now as a member, and have represented AMERIPEN in key policy discussions, including in rooms where EPR frameworks were actively being negotiated.

**If elected, what contribution would you bring to AMERIPEN as a member of the Board of Directors?** If elected, I would bring a combination of real-world policy execution experience and



industry perspective to the Board. Having spent five years as a contract lobbyist for AMERIPEN and now serving as a member, I offer a dual lens. I understand both how policy is negotiated and how those decisions ultimately impact companies on the ground. I've been directly involved in EPR discussions and broader packaging policy debates, which gives me a practical understanding of where policy frameworks succeed and where they create unintended challenges. I would bring: A pragmatic, policy-to-practice perspective, grounded in how legislation is developed, negotiated, and implemented. Credibility with policymakers and stakeholders, based on firsthand experience representing AMERIPEN in key discussions. A strong understanding of operator and brand impact, ensuring that advocacy reflects real-world feasibility and cost considerations. A collaborative approach, focused on helping AMERIPEN continue to lead as a unified voice for the industry. Ultimately, I would aim to help the Board continue to advance policies that are not only ambitious in their goals, but also workable in practice.

## Liz Helm, TemperPack



**Bio:** Liz Helm is the Director of Sustainability at TemperPack, a US-based packaging manufacturer scaling sustainable packaging materials since 2015. After joining in 2022, she has led the company's sustainability, ESG, investor relations, and policy work, most recently securing TemperPack's B Corp certification and overseeing its ISO 14040 compliant life cycle assessments. Liz holds an MBA in Sustainable Innovation from the University of Vermont and studied environmental science at the University of Virginia. Before joining the packaging industry, she pioneered a certified organic farm-to-table greenhouse for a luxury resort in Wyoming, an experience that grounded her belief that sustainable systems must succeed commercially to scale. TemperPack is an active member of the Sustainable Packaging Coalition, and Liz

contributes to the broader industry conversation through cross-industry speaking and her newsletter, The Impact Alphabet. She is based in Richmond, VA, where she loves to take her border collie, Pinot, to cool off in the James River.

**Where are you/is your company in the packaging value chain?** Raw material producer/supplier, Packaging converter/supplier

**Which packaging material(s) do you/your company primarily buy/use/sell?** Fiber

**What is the greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry?** The greatest challenge facing the packaging industry is that packaging innovation is moving faster than the regulation written to govern it. Sustainable materials, formats, and chemistries are being developed and commercialized at a pace state legislators were never resourced to keep up with, and the resulting knowledge gap between policymakers and the technical realities of packaging specifications shows up directly in the bills being passed. State-by-state EPR programs, material-specific bans, and recycled-content mandates, are each defining “recyclable” differently, applying different testing methods, and setting different compliance regimes. For brands and manufacturers, that means a product proven recyclable or compostable under one state’s definition can fail another’s, even when the underlying material and end-of-life pathway are identical. This patchwork has the unintended consequence of slowing the very innovation legislators are trying to accelerate. Policy holds enormous power to shape the market for materials that can genuinely meet environmental needs, but only when the rules are precise enough to reward the right outcomes. Closing the knowledge gap between legislators and the industry is the most important work in front of us.

**What, if anything, can and should AMERIPEN do to address this challenge?** As compostables, fiber-based formats, and plastic alternatives move from niche to mainstream, the policy dialogue needs to keep pace. AMERIPEN should expand its scope so these materials become central pillars of a credible sustainability transition across EPR design, recyclability definitions, and recycled-



content standards. AMERIPEN should continue to leverage the Compostables Working Group for sharper advocacy on compostable infrastructure, definitions, and end-of-life pathways. At the federal level, AMERIPEN should continue pushing for the PACK Act to bring consistency to recyclability and compostability labeling, which is the single most effective way to address the patchwork that brands and manufacturers face today. Brands set sustainability goals, and manufacturers build the products that meet them, carrying the technical and operational knowledge that policy precision requires. AMERIPEN can lead by ensuring packaging manufacturers, especially those building plastic alternatives, are seated alongside brand owners on every committee shaping policy positions. That diversification will make AMERIPEN's voice more representative and more credible as it positions itself as representing packaging and the environment.

**How long have you been active with AMERIPEN and in what ways have you been engaged, i.e., attended past Annual Summits, committee member, etc.?** TemperPack has manufactured sustainable packaging since 2015 and joined AMERIPEN in 2024. I had the pleasure of joining the AMERIPEN Summit in 2025, participating in the Capitol Hill Fly-in to support the PACK Act, and joined the Compostables Working Group as it restarted under Lynn's leadership. I regularly join and participate in the weekly Legislative and quarterly Regulatory Group. I will join the AMERIPEN Summit and Fly-in in 2026 in June.

**If elected, what contribution would you bring to AMERIPEN as a member of the Board of Directors?** I would bring to AMERIPEN's board a perspective that bridges what is scientifically possible and what is commercially viable today. As Director of Sustainability at TemperPack, a manufacturer that has scaled sustainable alternatives to EPS and single-use plastics across more than 150 million shipments, I work daily at the intersection of materials science, certifications, and market adoption. I can speak with authority on what the industry is actually ready to buy, and what it takes to move customers from sustainability ambition to commercial commitment. I came to packaging sustainability through environmental science and the UVM Sustainable Innovation MBA, grounded in the conviction that business is the fastest lever for systemic change. That orientation shapes how I engage beyond the company, through my newsletter The Impact Alphabet, cross-industry speaking, and public education on how consistent, incremental action compounds into industry-wide shifts. I have led TemperPack's certification work across BPI, USDA BioBased, How2Recycle, TUV Austria, ISO 14040 compliant LCAs, and most recently B Corp. The combination is what I would bring to the board: technical credibility, commercial fluency, and a complementary voice to the institutional expertise already at the table.

## Phil Rozenski, Novolex



**Bio:** Phil Rozenski currently serves on AMERIPEN's Board of Directors under a one-year bridging extension and is seeking a two-year term to complete a second and final term. Phil is Vice President of Government Affairs at Novolex, a plastics and paper packaging converter and plastics recycler. He is a recognized voice in packaging policy, with deep experience across plastic and fiber-based materials. His public policy work spans environmental marketing claims, lifecycle analysis, development of reuse, composting, and recycling systems, Extended Producer Responsibility, and circular economy frameworks. He has engaged extensively with state and federal policymakers on issues including EPR, labeling,

recycling standards, and composting standards that directly impact the packaging industry. Phil brings to the board a valuable perspective on how public policy affects a diverse range of sectors, including consumer packaged goods, service packaging, and foodservice packaging. He also contributes a converter's perspective across flexible and rigid plastics as well as paper and fiber substrates. Beyond AMERIPEN, Phil is active across numerous industry organizations representing the foodservice sector, plastics and fiber industries, recycling associations, and manufacturing alliances. Phil is a retired U.S. Air Force logistics officer and holds master's degrees in Procurement & Acquisition Management and an Executive MBA from Washington University in St. Louis.

**Where are you/is your company in the packaging value chain?** Packaging converter/supplier

**Which packaging material(s) do you/your company primarily buy/use/sell?** Fiber, Plastics, Metals

**What is the greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry?** Managing compliance in an environment of rapidly evolving, overlapping, and often inconsistent regulations.

**What, if anything, can and should AMERIPEN do to address this challenge?** Work collaboratively with stakeholders to reduce or minimize regulatory burdens and advance greater alignment and harmonization of packaging laws.

**How long have you been active with AMERIPEN and in what ways have you been engaged, i.e., attended past Annual Summits, committee member, etc.?** Engaged AMERIPEN member for over a decade, including service on multiple committees and four years on the Board of Directors.

**If elected, what contribution would you bring to AMERIPEN as a member of the Board of Directors?** A broad legislative perspective grounded in converter, foodservice packaging, and



recycling experience, across rigid and flexible plastics as well as paper and fiber-based packaging systems.

## Samantha Kappalman, Tetra Pak



**Bio:** Samantha Kappalman is a senior public policy and corporate affairs executive with nearly 30 years of experience guiding organizations through complex legislative, regulatory, and reputational challenges. Her background spans state government, national nonprofits, trade and professional associations, consulting firms, and mission driven corporations, giving her a broad and pragmatic perspective on governance and public impact. Samantha currently serves as Vice President, Corporate Affairs & Public Policy, at Tetra Pak, where she advises executive leadership, builds cross sector advocacy coalitions, and shapes policy strategies at the intersection of sustainability and the circular economy. She has led successful

legislative efforts, overseen crisis communications and issues management during high stakes public policy situations and developed thought leadership that informs policymakers and industry leaders. She brings deep expertise in circular packaging policy, stakeholder engagement, and aligning strategy with purpose.

**Where are you/is your company in the packaging value chain?** Packaging equipment manufacturer, Packaging converter/supplier

**Which packaging material(s) do you/your company primarily buy/use/sell?** Fiber

**What is the greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry?** Unrealistic goals and restrictions set in statute that are unable to achieve.

**What, if anything, can and should AMERIPEN do to address this challenge?** The chemical workstream is a great addition to the body of work at AMERIPEN. The work that AMERIPEN has done to streamline and harmonize EPR in states around the country has been really effective. Publishing a white paper that can be used for educating legislators would be a great way for them to understand why certain aspects are not achievable or what is actually achievable.

**How long have you been active with AMERIPEN and in what ways have you been engaged, i.e., attended past Annual Summits, committee member, etc.?** I've been in active in AMERIPEN since 2022. I'm on the 2026 Annual Summit Planning Committee and have sponsored the Summit in the past. I've also lobbied on behalf of AMERIPEN's interests, both during fly-ins and during individual lobbying on the Hill.

**If elected, what contribution would you bring to AMERIPEN as a member of the Board of Directors?** I bring a unique perspective to the AMERIPEN Board because I have experience working for state government, national associations, non-profit organizations, policy consulting



firms and a corporation. As a result, I have the ability to see impacts from the view point of most of AMERIPEN's membership.

## Stephen Kittredge, Amcor



**Bio:** Steve Kittredge serves as Vice President of Global Government Relations, where he leads Amcor’s engagement with policymakers, regulators, and industry stakeholders around the world. Steve drives strategic advocacy on key issues impacting the packaging industry, advancing policies that support innovation, sustainability, and responsible growth. With deep experience navigating complex political and regulatory environments, Steve partners closely with senior leadership to shape Amcor’s global public affairs strategy and strengthen the company’s voice across government channels. He is known for building collaborative relationships, guiding cross functional teams, and delivering clear, actionable insights that support the company’s long-term objectives.

**Where are you/is your company in the packaging value chain?** Packaging converter/supplier

**Which packaging material(s) do you/your company primarily buy/use/sell?** Plastics

**What is the greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry?** The greatest challenge facing the packaging industry today is reconciling rapidly evolving sustainability expectations with the need to maintain product protection, affordability, and supply chain efficiency at scale. Policymakers, customers, and consumers are demanding measurable reductions in waste, increased recyclability, and lower carbon footprints, yet infrastructure, regulatory frameworks, and technology have not kept pace. The result is a fragmented landscape of state-level policies, inconsistent definitions of recyclability, and uneven access to collection and recycling systems, all of which complicate investment decisions and slow progress toward a truly circular economy.

**What, if anything, can and should AMERIPEN do to address this challenge?** AMERIPEN is uniquely positioned to address this challenge by serving as a unifying, science-based voice that advances harmonized policy and system-level solutions. The organization can continue to advocate for consistent national frameworks—such as extended producer responsibility designed with performance-based outcomes—while promoting investments in recycling infrastructure, standardized labeling, and consumer education. Just as importantly, AMERIPEN can convene the full value chain to align on credible metrics and lifecycle-based approaches, ensuring that well-intentioned policies drive real environmental benefits without unintended tradeoffs.

**How long have you been active with AMERIPEN and in what ways have you been engaged, i.e., attended past Annual Summits, committee member, etc.?** I have been actively engaged with AMERIPEN for over a year. During this time, I attended last year’s Annual Summit as well as the New York fly-in, both of which provided valuable opportunities to engage directly with policymakers and industry peers on key packaging policy issues. In addition, I regularly participate



in AMERIPEN's government affairs and regulatory calls, which have been instrumental in staying informed on evolving policy developments and contributing to collaborative industry positions.

**If elected, what contribution would you bring to AMERIPEN as a member of the Board of**

**Directors?** If elected to the Board, I would bring a combination of policy expertise, industry perspective, and practical regulatory insight to advance AMERIPEN's mission. As a representative of Amcor—the largest global suppliers of plastic packaging—I bring firsthand experience with the technical, commercial, and sustainability challenges facing the packaging value chain. Coupled with my twelve years in the U.S. Senate as a policy advisor, I offer a deep understanding of the legislative process and how to translate complex policy issues into pragmatic, workable solutions for both industry and policymakers. I would also contribute a collaborative, solutions-oriented approach, grounded in active engagement with AMERIPEN and its members. I would work to strengthen the organization's role as a trusted, science-based voice, helping to advance harmonized and effective policy frameworks that drive meaningful environmental outcomes while preserving innovation and economic viability.

## Taylor Loeber, General Mills



**Bio:** Taylor Loeber is Manager, Packaging Sustainability Policy at General Mills. In this role, Taylor is responsible for developing and driving the execution of the General Mills North America strategy to impact public policy on packaging sustainability and supporting company compliance with existing and emerging North America packaging sustainability mandates, particularly Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) laws. Taylor is responsible for developing and nurturing strategic relationships with external stakeholders, CPG industry compliance bodies, and coordinating with internal experts in packaging, sustainability, finance, and other areas. Currently she sits on the Circular Action Alliance Governance Board and

Colorado State Board. Previously Taylor worked at Target, where she led review and served as a subject matter expert on legislation and regulations including Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and recycling, developed internal implementation solutions, and collaborated with external stakeholders including government agencies and industry organizations. Taylor has an MBA from Hamline University, a double major from St. Thomas University and pursuing another master's degree in environmental policy from Denver University. She lives in the Minneapolis area with her husband, two kids and two dogs.

**Where are you/is your company in the packaging value chain?** Consumer packaged goods brand

**Which packaging material(s) do you/your company primarily buy/use/sell?** Fiber, Plastics, and Metals

**What is the greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry?** The greatest policy challenge facing the packaging industry today is circular policy. The lack of harmonization, insufficient incentives, patchwork of EPR schemes and balance of competing objectives, like food safety, recyclability, economic growth & environmental protection for example.

**What, if anything, can and should AMERIPEN do to address this challenge?** Yes, I believe that AMERIPEN has the ability to bring packaging stakeholders across the entire chain together to help solve circular challenges, like PCR requirement obstacles, political advocacy, supply chain bottlenecks, innovational advancements and multi-stakeholder solutions. Because circularity involves integration from the entire lifecycle of the packaging - all stakeholders in the chain are impacted and therefore have to work together and in sync to achieve intended results.

**How long have you been active with AMERIPEN and in what ways have you been engaged, i.e., attended past Annual Summits, committee member, etc.?** One year. I attended the last



annual summit, I attended the NY fly-in and recently have been involved in revising the AMERIPEN weekly legislative update email.

**If elected, what contribution would you bring to AMERIPEN as a member of the Board of Directors?** If elected, I bring EPR policy and compliance expertise within a large CPG and formerly large retailer. I bring real operational challenges, needs and potential solutions from a producer lens that works in all types of materials and packaging formats.