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❖ FACT SHEET: Minnesota's Shrinkwrap Stewardship Legislation (Rep. Kraft)
Discriminating Against Boaters – Ignoring Industrial and Agricultural Plastic Waste

❖ WHAT'S HAPPENING

Minnesota House Bill (Rep. Kraft) proposes a mandatory recycling stewardship program exclusively for marine shrinkwrap (used for winterizing boats).

The bill does not regulate or include identical plastics used by construction, agriculture, or industrial sectors—despite those sectors generating significantly higher volumes of the same material.

❖ THE PLASTIC TRUTH

Sector Material Used Recycling Mandate?

Boating LDPE Shrinkwrap YES – Mandated

Agriculture LDPE Mulch Films, Tarps NO

Construction LDPE Sheeting, Barriers NO

Warehousing/Logistics LDPE Pallet Wrap NO

Same plastic. Different rules.

WHY THIS IS A PROBLEM

❖ 1. Discriminatory Regulation

Targets a single niche user group (boaters), while ignoring significantly larger generators of LDPE plastic waste.

❖ 2. No Infrastructure

No statewide program exists for shrinkwrap recycling.

No approved collectors, processors, or logistics network for managing marine shrinkwrap.

❖ 3. A Hidden Tax on Boaters

This is a de facto tax on boat owners, marinas, and marine product suppliers.

Industrial users of the same materials pay nothing and face no new requirements.

❖ 4. Penalizes Innovation

bioaqualife™ has developed biodegradable marine shrinkwrap (BioWrap™).

Legislation ignores product innovation and fails to support environmentally responsible alternatives.

POTENTIAL LEGAL ISSUES

Equal Protection Violation – singling out boaters without rational basis.

Selective Enforcement – discriminatory policy enforcement across identical materials.

Commerce Clause Conflict – disproportionate effect on interstate product distribution and innovation.

☒ WHAT WE'RE ASKING FOR

Fair, science-based environmental legislation that regulates plastics equitably across industries.

Inclusion of infrastructure plans before mandates are enforced.

Recognition and support for biodegradable alternatives like BioWrap™.