



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 351**

February Session, 2006

Substitute House Bill No. 5275

*House of Representatives, April 4, 2006*

The Committee on Environment reported through REP. ROY of the 119th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT EXPANDING THE BEVERAGE CONTAINER REDEMPTION PROVISIONS TO WATER BOTTLES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivisions (1) and (2) of section 22a-243 of the general  
2 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

4 (1) "Beverage" means beer or other malt beverages and [mineral  
5 waters] water, soda water and similar carbonated soft drinks in liquid  
6 form and intended for human consumption;

7 (2) "Beverage container" means the individual, separate, sealed  
8 glass, metal or plastic bottle, can, jar or carton, less than one gallon in  
9 size, containing a beverage.

10 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 22a-244 of the general statutes is  
11 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
12 *October 1, 2006*):

13 (b) Every beverage container sold or offered for sale in this state,  
14 except beverage containers sold or offered for sale for consumption on  
15 an interstate passenger carrier, shall clearly indicate by bar code and  
16 embossing or by a stamp or by a label or other method securely affixed  
17 to the beverage container (1) either the refund value of the container or  
18 the words "return for deposit" or "return for refund" or other words as  
19 approved by the Department of Environmental Protection, and (2)  
20 either the word "Connecticut" or the abbreviation "Ct.", provided this  
21 subdivision shall not apply to glass beverage containers permanently  
22 marked or embossed with a brand name.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2006	22a-243(1) and (2)
Sec. 2	October 1, 2006	22a-244(b)

**ENV**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** See Below

***Municipal Impact:*** See Below

***Explanation***

The bill could result in a decrease in the amount of material deposited curbside for collection. To the extent that this reduction would correlate in a savings in collection costs to municipalities or the state is not known at this time.

***The Out Years***

The fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future.

**OLR Bill Analysis**  
**sHB 5275**

***AN ACT EXPANDING THE BEVERAGE CONTAINER REDEMPTION PROVISIONS TO WATER BOTTLES.***

**SUMMARY:**

This bill expands the beverage container redemption law to include all water bottles. Connecticut's current beverage container redemption law applies to beer and other malt beverages, soda and mineral water, and carbonated soft drinks. The bill eliminates the separate reference to mineral waters. It also limits the size of any beverage container subject to the law to less than one gallon.

The bill requires all beverage containers for sale or sold in the state to clearly indicate by bar code that they are redeemable in Connecticut. By law all redeemable beverage containers for sale or sold in the state must already be clearly marked to indicate that they are redeemable in the state. These requirements do not apply to beverage containers for sale or sold for consumption on an interstate passenger carrier.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2006

**BACKGROUND**

***Beverage Container Redemption law***

Connecticut's deposit system under the redemption law works as follows:

1. retailers pay beverage container distributors \$.05 for each beer or carbonated soft drink container that they deliver;
2. the consumer pays the retailer \$.05 for each beer or carbonated soft drink container that he purchases from the retailer;

3. the retailer or redemption center pays the consumer \$.05 for each container that he returns;
4. the distributor reimburses the retailer or redemption center \$.05 for each beer and carbonated soft drink container, plus a handling fee of \$.015 on each beer container and \$.02 on each carbonated soft drink container returned; and
5. the distributor keeps the \$.05 for each unclaimed deposit.

**Marked Redeemable**

By law, all redeemable beverage containers for sale or sold in the state must be marked to clearly indicate (1) either their refund value or the words "return for deposit," "return for refund," or other words approved by the Department of Environmental Protection and (2) either the word "Connecticut" or the abbreviation CT. The law does not apply to glass beverage containers permanently marked or embossed with a brand name.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 9 (03/16/2006)