

HILARY EGO

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Dear Connecticut Environment Committee,

On behalf of Westhill High School's environment club, Environment Heroes, we strongly urge you to pass the SB661. From the experience of trying to have a working bottle recycling system throughout our school, we have found that students simply don't care enough to recycle a bottle and throw it in the garbage. If we could get a 10 cent incentive for every bottle recycled, not only will people be earning money, they will gain the knowledge of knowing they saved a bottle from sitting in a landfill for longer than their own lifetime.

As a full time swimmer, I found that we go through lots of water and sports drinks. I set up a recycling bin in our pool and found it is used immensely. I then put these bottles with my weekly recycling pick up. I started doing this last year and kept count of how many bottles we have collected, which is about over 3,000 bottles. If there was a bottle incentive we could have used the money as part of our fundraising for our swim team. Also, as co-president and co-founder of Environment Heroes, we could use the bottle incentive to raise money for other environmental issues we would like to help.

Senator Dodd, Senator Lieberman, Representative Himes, Representative Camillo, Representative Fox, Representative Gibbons, Representative Leone, Representative Miller, Representative Shapiro, Representative Tong, Representative Frantz, and Representative McDonald, Fairfield County could really use the bottle incentive. On recycle day I drive down my street and only a few people have their recycle bins out for collection. Since there is no incentive, people just throw their recyclable products in the garbage. The earth needs our help and every bottle saved from landfills counts. Please help make the world a greener and cleaner environment. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hilary Ego