



## **Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions, Inc.**

deKoven House Community Center  
27 Washington Street  
Middletown, CT 06457  
860 344-8321  
[www.caciwc.org](http://www.caciwc.org)

### **TESTIMONY TO THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING Friday, February 28, 2014**

The Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions, Inc (CACIWC) is pleased to submit testimony on the following bill:

#### **S.B. No. 67 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF JUICES, TEAS AND SPORTS DRINKS UNDER CONNECTICUT'S BOTTLE BILL.**

CACIWC has long supported efforts to preserve open space lands in Connecticut. Our member conservation commissions and their staff work with local land trusts and other partners to identify, survey, and preserve critical habitats within their municipalities. Unfortunately, many of these beautiful lands are despoiled by litter, especially non-deposit beverage containers. CACIWC strongly supports this bill as it will expand the types of beverage containers that qualify for deposit and redemption programs.

Although the State of Connecticut and many towns are promoting single-stream curbside recycling, these systems have not prevented the unfortunate disposal of many millions of containers, including those littering parks and trails throughout the state. CACIWC strongly believes that deposit and redemption programs will continue to have a major role in supplementing single-stream curbside recycling in the control of inappropriate container disposal. Moreover, the expansion of deposit beverage container types will only serve to promote the continued activity of volunteer groups and individuals who collect discarded beverage containers for redemption.

CACIWC also supports increasing the handling fee for dealers and redemption centers and recommends that the bill be expanded to include all glass containers and mineral water bottles in our state deposit and redemption programs. In supporting this bill, CACIWC endorses the importance of promoting all approaches to beverage container litter control. Future visitors to our parks and open space lands will appreciate your efforts!

*CACIWC is a non-profit organization working to protect Connecticut's wetlands, watercourses, and other natural resources through support and education of the 2000+ volunteers and staff that carry out the responsibilities of Connecticut's Conservation Commissions and Inland Wetlands Commissions. CACIWC, representing its member commissions, works with municipalities and environmental groups to promote public support for the judicious management and conservation of Connecticut's natural resources. For additional information contact Alan J. Siniscalchi, President at [board@caciwc.org](mailto:board@caciwc.org) or visit [www.caciwc.org](http://www.caciwc.org).*