



Connecticut Chapter
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Martin Mador, Legislative Chair

Environment Committee
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Testimony In Favor of
SB 67 AAC The Inclusion Of Juices, Teas And Sports Drinks Under Connecticut's Bottle Bill

I am Martin Mador, 130 Highland Ave., Hamden, CT 06518. I am the volunteer Legislative Chair for the Connecticut Chapter of the Sierra Club. I hold a Masters of Environmental Management degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

The Sierra Club has long been a champion for expansion of the bottle bill, first passed in the late 1970s and covering only carbonated beverages. A major expansion added water bottles. Redeemable deposits have played a significant role across the country in reducing litter.

Our recycling rates are much too low. Everyone agrees on that. Adoption of single stream will help. But we have a long way to go.

The Bottle Bill uses an economic reward to encourage people to do the right thing. It gives people who are so motivated some gratification for taking action.

Single stream will certainly help boost residential recycling rates. It will do nothing, however, for litter collection. That's why we need the Bottle Bill. Provide a small reward for people who take the trouble to collect redeemable bottles littering the landscape, at parks and outdoor events, along the roadways.

The Sierra Club works on a variety of solid waste issues. As always, we endorses the concept of the Bottle Bill, and recommend passage of SB 67.