

February 27, 2014

Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of Senate Bill 67 (An Act Concerning the Inclusion of Juices, Teas, and Sports Drinks under Connecticut's Bottle Bill). I am the recycling coordinator for the Town of Sherman, but I am also the mother of 3 children, 2 of who are extremely involved in sports. After every soccer game, I see tens of bottles of sports drinks, water, and other non carbonated beverages thrown in the garbage.

Not only do I fully support this bill, I also believe that we should increase the nickel deposit to a quarter deposit on every beverage container. In my opinion this would increase our redemption rate to 90%+. At \$6.00 deposit fee per 24 pack of bottled water, everyone will think twice before just throwing out the bottles. This would also encourage people to use reusable water bottles.

Every year in Sherman, I organize a Roadside Clean Up Day. Residents sign up for a section of road to pick up litter. Every year, I'm absolutely astounded by the number of "nips" that we pick up, along with full size liquor bottles. I believe they should be included as redeemable containers. Please do everything you can to increase our recycling rate, and to reduce waste.

Yours Truly,

Ruth Byrnes
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