



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
CONNECTICUT, INC.®**

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**Environment Committee
February 28, 2014**

Submitted by Lynn Taborsak, Climate Change Specialist regarding

SB 67: AAC the Inclusion of Juices, Teas and Sports Drinks under Connecticut's Bottle Bill

The League of Women Voters of Connecticut is a non-partisan statewide organization comprised of 1600 members in 27 local chapters who are committed to effective public policy and the active participation of citizens in their government.

The League has consistently supported statewide recycling policies and environmentally sound waste management. In the past, we have joined with other environmental groups to support passage of the state's successful paint recycling program, mattress recycling program and mercury thermostat recycling program.

We know after thirty years that redemption rates of 65 to 75% can be expected for deposit containers. It is an incentive that really works in our state. Beverage consumers redeem their bottles and cans. We are concerned, however, about the impact that expanding the beverage redemption program may have on single stream recycling where these items can now be recycled. We are also concerned about the capacity of redemption centers and retailers to store and process additional beverage containers.

We need to make it easier for people to recycle all kinds of beverage containers with appropriate receptacles in our parks, on our campuses, inside fitness facilities and throughout our towns and cities. We could use unclaimed deposits to support recycling education and provide recycling receptacles. It will not only help us reduce litter, it will reduce our carbon footprint.

Thank you for your consideration.