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February 3, 2015

**Testimony in opposition to HB 6033**

Chairman Albis, Chairman Kennedy, and members of the Environmental Committee; my name is Bill Miller and I am co-owner of Maple Hill Farms, Inc – a small 3<sup>rd</sup> generation family-owned vending business in Bloomfield, CT. I am writing this letter to oppose any expansion of the present bottle bill HB 6033 to include juices, sport drinks, teas etc.

Any expansion of the present bottle bill would seriously affect an already struggling industry. With single stream recycling it is much easier to recycle and from my own experience much more is being recycled.

This committee is also considering SB 148, which would increase the bottle bill to ten cents. An increase of a nickel may not seem like a lot, but in the vending industry it may be all the profit we get. There are very narrow margins between what manufacturers charge us, the servicing of vending machines, and keeping prices low enough for consumers to consider purchasing our products. Vending is an incredibly labor-intensive process for a very small profit.

Please consider our livelihood before considering an expansion. Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

*William A. Miller*

William A. Miller  
President, Maple Hill Farms