

February 4, 2015

Testimony in opposition to HB 6033

Chairman Albis, Chairman Kennedy and Members of the Environmental Committee – I am an owner and partner at JHS Vending & Coffee Service in Wolcott, Connecticut. We are a family owned business with fifteen employees and have been in business for the past 48 years. I am also the President of the Connecticut Vending Association.

Each year we face price increases from our major product suppliers. We try to absorb these increases and not pass them on to our customers as much as possible. The expansion of the products that will have a deposit on them will create an additional burden on our small business and many others. We will be forced to raise prices to accommodate the deposit.

You may not think a **five cent** deposit is any big deal, but it could have a **devastating** effect on small businesses as well as the consumer. We are living in hard times and in a fragile economic environment. I urge you, on behalf of all vendors, to please reconsider the expansion of the products for deposit. Consider the repercussions this bill could have, if passed.

I would be happy to discuss this with you at any time.

Sincerely,

Thomas N. Hayes

Owner/Manager / Partner

President of the Connecticut Vending Association