



## *The Jonah Center for Earth and Art*

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**Testimony In Support of H.B. 5618**  
Concerning an increase in the handling fee  
For bottle redemption centers  
By John C. Hall  
Executive Director

While our State's Bottle Bill has been a huge success in terms of reducing litter from our roads and parks, I have noticed over recent years a growing number of beer and soda cans that are discarded along highways where I bicycle and woodland trails where I walk. The most common container I find is a "Bud Lite" can. They are everywhere. Also, I see many juice and iced tea containers, and such, that are non-deposit containers.

It has been many years since the current redemption fee for deposit beverage containers in Connecticut was set. The small amounts are no longer an adequate incentive for these containers to be collected and returned. After all these years, it is time to raise the deposit amount to cover the true costs of recycling and to incentivize more thorough return of these containers for recycling.

Furthermore, the number of beverages containers that are required to be recycled, such as for juices and iced tea, should be expanded.

Therefore, I strongly encourage support of H.B. 5618.

*Our mission: to foster sustainable relationships among people, other creatures, energy resources, and the environment and to promote interdisciplinary community partnerships in scientific, artistic, and other cultural endeavors.*