

To the Environment Committee:

As a resident of South Windsor, Connecticut, I am documenting my support for HB 5618.

The Bottle Bill program needs to be updated to reflect current handling costs. Until it is updated, opponents of the law will continue to call for a repeal of the Bottle Bill deposit and try to replace it with a non-refundable "recycling" fee to support curbside recycling. This would discourage recycling statewide - that of individual consumers as well as non-profit groups that do high-volume recycling drives as fundraisers. In addition, a non-refundable fee program would become a new consumer tax to fund programs that would cost the State money, thereby adding to our State's projected deficit.

Sincerely,
Ellen Castaldini