

To the Environment Committee:

I am writing to support [HB 5618](#) concerning an increase in the handling fee for bottle redemption centers.

Connecticut's "Bottle Bill" has been successful in encouraging public recycling of bottles and cans and reducing litter, but after 30 years it needs to be updated in a way that encourages consumers to increase participation and allow redeemers to earn more per container.

I also believe that the bill should expand the bottle deposit to include other types of containers as an effective waste management tool, good for the environment and the economy. This program earns income for retailers, redemption centers, and the state, lessens the waste in our landfills, and greatly reduces litter. Connecticut's roadsides are a testimony to the effectiveness of this bill. Visit a state that doesn't have a bottle bill and note the difference.

Respectfully,
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