HB 7294
AN ACT CONCERNING
BOTTLE REDEMPTION IN THE STATE

This bill aims to expand the CT’s Bottle Bill Redemption that was initiated in 1978. The bill is outdated and needs to be modernized to include non-carbonated beverages and most importantly giving the redemption centers the much needed raise in handling fee.

This bill will benefit not just the redemption centers but also the towns, distributors, grocery stores, package stores, and many more.

The waste management costs are increasing for towns and they are welcoming the idea of expansion of the bottle bill for less recycling going into the bins. This save tremendous amount of money for our residents. Also, the quality of materials from redemption centers such as glass is far better in quality and value in terms of resale than that of curbside. Even MRFs are looking to remove glass from their stream. This further proves that bottle bill model is the way moving forward.

The distributors would be assisted by giving the split of the Escheats while states revenue from the unclaimed would remain neutral, untouched, due to influx of new containers that would be brought about from this expansion.

The major concern of grocery and package stores is the limited space to store empties. With the increase of handling fee, the state would see more redemption centers opening throughout the state. New York seen influx of redemption center after they had their increase years back. With proper language in legislation, the grocery and package stores can avoid taking in returnables if closest redemption center is within certain mileage.

We ask the Committee to support this increase and expansion of the bottle bill. We look forward to opening more businesses and creating more jobs.

Thank You,

Kanchan Garala
Bottle & Can Redemption Center
65 Mascolo Road
South Windsor, CT 06074