

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	3 - 2 - 0
Yeas:	Bates, Prozanski, Avakian
Nays:	Atkinson, Beyer
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Sue Marshall, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/20, 3/22, 3/27, 4/3, 4/5

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Expands type of beverage containers subject to deposit provisions in the Bottle Bill. Modifies the definition of “beverage container” to define plastic as polyethylene terephthalate. Modifies the definition of beverage to include water and flavored water. Allows a dealer that occupies a space of less than 5,000 square feet to refuse to accept beverage containers of a brand the dealer does not sell and limits the number of containers redeemable to 50 containers per person per day. Requires dealers to post conditions when they may refuse to accept empty beverage containers. Makes manufacturer, distributor or importer liable to dealer for failure to pay refund value or collect containers. Creates a Bottle Bill Task Force of nine members appointed by the Governor and specified duties. Declares an emergency, effective on passage. Sets operative date of provisions for expansion of the Bottle Bill of January 1, 2009.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Expansion of single-serving beverage container market
- Plastic recycling rate and increasing number of bottles not recycled
- Redemption options: grocery stores, redemption centers, recycle bank
- Funding source to support creation of redemption centers
- Number of unredeemed containers and its value to distributors
- Other state’s bottle bill programs
- State administration of the bottle bill
- Impacts of increasing the deposit
- Cross-border redemption of non-deposit bottles
- Storage needs for redeemable bottles
- Cleanliness of redeemable bottles

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Expands Bottle Bill provisions and details of how it will be implemented. Creates a Bottle Bill Task Force with specified duties.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon “Bottle Bill” was implemented in 1972 to reduce litter and increase recycling. Under the current system, a five-cent deposit per beverage container is assessed on non-refillable and non-standardized bottles and a two-cent deposit is assessed for standardized, refillable bottles. The deposit applies to beer, other malt beverages and carbonated beverages. Since its inception, the number and types of single-serving beverage containers has greatly increased, with many not currently subject to a deposit.

The Bottle Bill expansion provisions under Senate Bill 707-A take effect on January 1, 2009. A Bottle Bill Task Force created by the measure will study beverage container collection and refund matters, including alternative collection methods to increase the recycling of beverage containers while maintaining consumer convenience. A deadline of November 1, 2008 is set for the Task Force to submit a report to the interim legislative committee assigned to address environment and natural resources issues.

4/18/2007 11:30:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.