



Oregon
Environmental
Council
It's Your Oregon



ASSOCIATION of
**OREGON
RECYCLERS**

April 19th, 2017

To: Chair Phil Barnhart and members of the House Revenue Committee

Re: Concerns with **House Bill 3443**

Business groups and environmental organizations don't always see eye-to-eye. However, we are united in celebrating the success of Oregon's Bottle Bill as an example of what happens when **industry, the public, and conservationists** work together for the common good.

After 46 years of reducing litter and promoting recycling, the Bottle Bill is now entering an important new phase. With the recent deposit increase and the coming container expansion, it is a critical time for this iconic Oregon program, and **we believe it is important to let those changes occur without risking the success Oregonians have enjoyed so far.**

Oregon's Bottle Bill is unique nationally. The beverage industry, rather than just complying with the letter of the law, has taken it upon itself to set aside competitive concerns and work together to create innovative new programs. BottleDrop, BottleDrop Express, and BottleDrop Refillable all grew out of that partnership, **working in good faith to improve the public experience** with recycling and increase redemption rates. We look forward to seeing these programs continue to grow and develop.

Oregonians overwhelmingly support their Bottle Bill, and are rightly proud of what's been accomplished, all without taxpayer investment. **We hope the Legislature will let the deposit increase and container expansion take hold before considering changes that might jeopardize the public-private partnership that's brought us this far.**