



Dear Chair Williamson & Members of the House Rules Committee

We at Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC) would like to support HCR 211 and share why we believe Representative Paul Hanneman's legacy is so important to Oregon.

Rep. Hanneman had many successes as a legislator. Among the most important was his leadership on Oregon's landmark Bottle Bill in 1971. Many of you are familiar with the story: Richard Chambers, an outdoor enthusiast and activist, was dismayed at the litter he saw around Oregon. He contacted Rep. Hanneman, his legislator, and started a letter writing campaign. Rep. Hanneman took on the cause, and crafted the Bottle Bill. It eventually won the support of Gov. Tom McCall and passed despite powerful interests aligned against it, making Oregon the first state in the nation to have a Bottle Bill.

What's telling about Rep. Hanneman's accomplishment is that it is as relevant today as it was in 1971. Rep. Hanneman stayed engaged with the program, and participated in its modernization. His vision, to harness the innovation and flexibility of the private sector to deliver and operate a system that could evolve with the times, made the Bottle Bill the success it has been.

Today, OBRC processes billions of containers a year, taking litter out of our environment and recycling it for better uses. Today, the Bottle Bill includes things that in 1971 seemed inconceivable in the Oregon market, like kombucha and energy drinks. Perhaps the greatest testament to the Rep. Hanneman's success is that Oregon remains the only state to increase the deposit to keep the program working. While these changes weren't in the original bill, the framework to achieve them was.

Rep. Hanneman's foresight, determination, and service helps keep Oregon beautiful to this day. We are grateful to him, and to this committee for honoring him.

Jules Bailey

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jules Bailey", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Chief Stewardship Officer

Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative