

SB 522 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 3/14, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits a person during one day from intentionally returning to redeem the container deposit, 25 or more containers that the person knows or has good reason to know were not purchased in Oregon. Makes violation a Class D violation with each day that the violation occurs a separate offense.

No subsequent referral

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Prohibits a person, with the intent to defraud, from returning for the refund value specified in ORS 459A.705 during one day 50 or more individual beverage containers that the person knows were not sold in this state.

BACKGROUND:

In 1971, Oregon enacted the “Bottle Bill,” which is the nation’s longest-standing beverage container deposit law. In 2007, the legislature expanded coverage of the five-cent deposit to include water and flavored water. In 2011, the legislature expanded the types of beverage containers subject to the deposit to include juices, teas and more; set a trigger for the deposit to increase to 10 cents if the recycling rate fell below 80 percent for two consecutive years; and set up a redemption center pilot project. The only containers that may be legally redeemed under the Bottle Bill are containers that were purchased in Oregon.

Senate Bill 522 would prohibit the return for a refund of 25 or more containers in one day by a person who knows or has good reason to know that the containers were not purchased in Oregon.