



The Updated Bottle Bill is again before the State Senate! Ask your State Senator to vote YES!

The Updated Bottle bill has been filed as an amendment to the State Budget. The amendment is scheduled to be discussed on the floor of the Senate in the next few days. If enough Senators support the amendment, we could get the Updated Bottle Bill through the Senate. Ask your State Senator to vote YES on Senate Budget Amendment 222 - Updated Bottle Bill, sponsored by Sen. Cynthia Creem and Sen. Robert Hedlund.

Please call or email now, and share this alert with your friends/networks. To find contact information for your Senators, click [here](#).

The Updated Bottle Bill was passed by the Senate last year as an amendment to the budget, but was killed in the budget conference committee. Let's try again! It will be debated this week. Contact your Senator now.

The purpose of the bill is to update the highly effective 5-cent container deposit law (The 1982 Bottle Bill) to include non-carbonated, nonalcoholic beverage containers (bottled water, juice, ice tea, energy drinks etc.), which will increase recycling in Massachusetts by an estimated 1 billion beverage containers annually.

Here are some talking points about the Updated Bottle Bill:

- The 5-cent deposit is not a tax - it is fully refunded when the container is returned.
- Deposits increase recycling. The 20-25 % recycling rate for non-deposit containers jumps to 80% when those containers have a redeemable deposit.
- Deposits reduce litter. In states that have deposit systems, litter for those containers goes down by an average of 78% while all litter is reduced by an average of 45%.
- Deposits save municipalities money. Recycling these additional beverage containers will save between \$4.53 to \$6.5 million annually in trash collection and disposal costs when consumers redeem their deposits rather than litter or throw these containers in the trash.
- A January 2011 poll by Mass Inc showed 77% of a broad sample of Massachusetts residents supported an expanded bottle bill.
- Beverage prices in Bottle Bill and non-Bottle Bill states are comparable. Donald Dowd, Vice President of Coca Cola of New England, stated, "Our prices pre-bottle bill and post-bottle bill are virtually the same." A study funded by the National Food Processors Association found that soda in Massachusetts "costs roughly the same as soda in New Hampshire."

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