

HCR 24 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Commemorates 50th anniversary of Oregon Bottle Bill.

- Ayes, 55; Excused, 5--Bonham, Breese-Iverson, Leif, Levy, Nearman
- No Fiscal Impact
- No Revenue Impact

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The original Bottle Bill legislation was enacted in 1971, and it is the nation's longest-standing beverage container deposit law. Since its passage, nine other states have enacted similar programs. Since enactment, the Bottle Bill has undergone multiple updates and changes. In 2007, the Oregon Legislative Assembly enacted Senate Bill 707 which created the Bottle Bill Task Force with the purpose of making recommendations to the Legislative Assembly on ways the Oregon Bottle Bill systems could be improved. Legislation enacted in 2013 authorized a redemption center program to improve customer convenience and reduce the burden on retailers to accept and process empty containers, known as "BottleDrops." In addition, the Legislative Assembly expanded coverage to include additional containers and, in 2017, increased the deposit from five to 10 cents. Under the current law, people pay a 10-cent container deposit when they buy all beverage containers three liters or less in size, except distilled liquor, wine, dairy or plant-based milk, and infant formula. Consumers can return the empty containers to stores and BottleDrops and receive the 10-cent refund value for each container returned.

House Concurrent Resolution 24 would commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Oregon Bottle Bill.