

Submitter: Lissa Woolstenhulme Lee

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3940

Oregonians deeply value their Bottle Bill, regardless of their voting preferences, residence, or occupation. Thanks to this initiative, we have been recycling longer and more effectively than anyone else in the country.

I oppose HB 3940 because it proposes adding a beverage sales tax to Oregon's Bottle Bill as a potential method to fund the increasing need for wildfire defense in the state. Introducing a beverage tax would raise costs at a time when many Oregonians can least afford it.

This proposal also jeopardizes non-profits' ability to fundraise through the BottleDrop Give program. Losing the funds raised via BottleDrop would significantly hinder non-profits' capacity to provide essential services and programs for Oregonians and their communities.

Did you know that in 2024, over 6,900 non-profits across Oregon raised more than \$5.5 million through BottleDrop, one dime at a time?

This tax would disproportionately impact thousands of low-income families and individuals who rely on the money they receive from their recycling returns to supplement their income and meet basic needs.