



**E. WERNER RESCHKE**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
DISTRICT 55

2 April 2025

To: House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment

Re: HB 3940 - Oppose New Bottle Tax

Chair Lively, Vice Chair B. Levy, Vice Chair Gamba and Members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment,

**I am writing in strong opposition to the new bottle tax found in HB 3940.** I applaud the sponsors efforts to find a sustainable funding source to combat wildfires. I know this bill has been the product of many meetings during the interim and into the session.

That said, the increase in the bottle deposit is a new tax — a tax that has no connection to wildfire. It would be akin to taxing public parking spaces and then dedicating that revenue to support youth sports. The two don't connect or correlate. One has nothing to do with the other.

This new tax is the reason I oppose HB 3940. **Please adopt the -2 amendment which removes the new bottle tax** before voting it out of committee.

Oregonians are trying to grapple with the high cost of living in this state. Therefore, the last thing the legislature should do is to pass a new tax making Oregon more expensive to live and work.

Sincerely,

**E. WERNER RESCHKE**

Oregon State Representative, HD 55  
*The Crater Lake District*