



May 6th, 2025

RE: Support for SB 992 A for a Portland redemption center solution

Honorable Chair Lively, Vice Chairs Gamba and Levy, and members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy, and the Environment,

I write today to express the Portland Metro Chamber's strong support for SB 992 A, which creates a Portland solution for container redemption centers.

The Portland Metro Chamber (The Chamber) is greater Portland's Chamber of Commerce and represents the largest, most diverse network of businesses in the region. The Alliance advocates for business at all levels of government to support commerce, community health and the region's overall prosperity. We represent more than 2,200 members, from 27 counties, 13 states and virtually every industry sector. More than 80% of our members are small businesses.

We fully support Oregon's iconic bottle bill, but the shift to redemption centers has proven to be very difficult in Portland's unique high-density environment. It has become virtually impossible in the downtown core to site redemption centers, which has left the burden of bottle redemption to retail stores.

Our organizations have participated in a workgroup over the interim with the City of Portland, the NW Grocery Association, OBRC, the OLCC and Ground Score Association's People's Depot to craft a unique solution to better serve Portland's retailers and consumers.

SB 992 would allow for Alternative Access Redemption Centers - only in Portland - to allow an organization like Ground Score Association/People's Depot to expand their services with a modified convenience zone requirement. Should SB 992 authorize this model, our organizations are committed to partnering with People's Depot to support their success and sustainability in expanding their capacity, ensure safety for their staff, customers, neighboring business, residents, and organizations.

We believe the siting of an alternative redemption center and convenience zone in Portland's Central City will be a true game changer. The benefit to Portland's retail businesses and their employees, residents, and visitors inside the convenience zone will be significant and meaningful.

For these reasons we urge you to support SB 992 A. Thank you for your consideration.

Jon Isaacs

Executive Vice President, Public Affairs

PORTLAND METRO CHAMBER

jon@portlandmetrochamber.com