



Owned and Operated by
Oregon Beverage Distributors

VOTE YES ON SB 992A – BOTTLE BILL OMNIBUS LEGISLATION

SB 992A makes carefully tailored improvements to how the Bottle Bill works for Oregon, “future proofing” this nation-leading industry stewardship program for the long term while ensuring Oregonians still have convenient access to container redemption.

Modifications to Container Return Opportunities in the City of Portland

SB 992A establishes a new redemption opportunity designed to serve daily or near daily redeemers of beverage containers in Downtown Portland via an Alternative Access Redemption Center and adjusts retail return requirements within a specified radius around the Alternative Access Redemption Center.

Key features of this alternative model include:

- Available in cities with a population greater than 500k.
- Operated by a nonprofit organization and sponsored by a distributor cooperative.
- Accepts at least 350 individual containers per person, per day.
- Creates one convenience zone, adjusting the retail take back requirements for grocers and convenience stores, out to up to 3.5 miles.
 - Large format (grocery) stores¹ within the zone may:
 - Help fund the new center and may refuse to accept containers, or
 - Host a Green and Blue Bag drop site, and refuse to accept individual containers, or
 - Provide equivalent services to the Alternative Access Redemption Center.
 - Small format (convenience) stores within the zone may:
 - Limit container returns to 24 per person, per day (down from 50)
 - Limit container returns to 8 am – 6 pm

With this change, OBRC expects the small amount of redemption volume from large format stores within Downtown Portland to shift predominantly either to the Alternative Access Redemption Center or to OBRC’s Green and Blue Bag program, rather than shifting to convenience stores.

In addition to this new redemption opportunity, this bill aims to help more Portlanders take advantage of OBRC’s Green and Blue bag program by incentivizing the creation of more bag drop locations—Dealer Redemption Centers—across the city of Portland:

- Dealer Redemption Centers within Portland city limits would no longer be required to accept 24 containers per person, per day and could instead refuse to accept any individual containers.
- The requirement to accept 24 containers per person, per day would remain intact at Dealer Redemption Centers located in the rest of the state.

¹ Over 5,000 Square Feet

Low Impact Redemption Centers and Convenience Zones

SB 992A allows OLCC to collapse certain convenience zones placed around redemption centers into a single uniform zone if they meet two important criteria:

1. The annual return volume to large stores affected by the change is less than 3% of the total volume to the corresponding redemption center in the previous year, and
2. The redemption center has been operating for at least three years or a lesser period of time that is sufficient to demonstrate that container returns have normalized across the zones.

With these two factors satisfied, participating large retailers within the 3.5-mile convenience zone would see their take back requirements eliminated.² Small retailers would continue to be required to take back up to 24 containers, ensuring that Oregonians have access to both retail redemption and larger volume redemption (up to 350 containers) through the redemption center.

Concepts Incorporated from Other Bottle Bill Legislation

The omnibus legislation pulls in concepts from three additional pieces of legislation introduced this session, which include:

- Signaling that redemption centers are an appropriate use in industrial zones in the way they are generally an allowed use in commercially zoned areas and codifying best practices for public engagement in the redemption center application process. (HB 2921)
- Adjusting the hours for dealer in store redemptions to 8am-8pm to allow for sufficient staffing and support for redemption services at the stores. (SB 869)
- Allowing wineries in Oregon that sell wine in cans out of their tasting room to-go to limit their container redemptions to the beverages they make and sell. (HB 3432)

² Large stores participating in the Redemption Center in the outer convenience zone were already allowed to limit their takebacks to 24 containers per person, per day.