VERMONT'S BOTTLE BILL: How the money flows

PRODUCT SALE

DEPOSIT INITIATOR

(BEVERAGE MANUFACTURER / DISTRIBUTOR)

- Charges retailer 5¢ deposit per container
- May charge handling fee to retailer (typically 3.5-4¢, not required by law)

(at this point, Deposit Initiator is holding 5¢ deposit plus any handling fee charged*)

RETAILER



- Charges customer/consumer 5¢ deposit per container
- May pass handling fee on to consumer

(at this point, retailer is even)

CONSUMER

• Pays 5¢ deposit per container when purchasing, along with any handling fee passed on by retailer

(at this point, consumer has paid 5¢ deposit, plus any handling fee passed along by retailer)

CONTAINER RETURN

CONSUMER

RETAILER

(RETAILER / REDEMPTION CENTER)

DEPOSIT INITIATOR

(BEVERAGE MANUFACTURER / DISTRIBUTOR)

- Returns container to redemption center or retailer
- Gets back 5¢ deposit per container

• Pays 5¢ deposit per container to consumer

(at this point, retailer is out 5¢ deposit per container and has incurred handling costs)

- Pays retailer 5¢ deposit per container
- Pays retailer 3.5-4¢ handling fee per container

(at this point, retailer is even; deposit initiator is even if handling fee was passed on to consumer)

^{*}Although not required by law, most beverage manufacturers/distributors pass the per container handling fee (3.5¢ for commingled brands, 4¢ for non-commingled brands) on to the retailers, who pass it on to the consumers, so that consumers are paying the costs associated with recycling.