

1 H.158

2 Senator Brock moves that the Senate propose to the House that the bill be
3 amended by striking out Sec. 7 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a
4 new Sec. 7 to read as follows:

5 Sec. 7. SYSTEMS ANALYSIS OF BEVERAGE CONTAINER SYSTEM

6 (a) The Agency of Natural Resources shall contract with an independent
7 third party consultant to conduct a systems analysis of the efficacy and cost of
8 the Vermont's beverage container redemption system. The analysis shall
9 estimate:

10 (1) the total system costs and savings associated with the
11 implementation of the expanded beverage container redemption system under
12 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, including climate impacts;

13 (2) the cost to consumers of complying with an expanded beverage
14 container redemption system, including transportation costs, compliance costs,
15 carbon impact, and externalities, such as lost time;

16 (3) the impacts of an expanded beverage container redemption system
17 on the recycling system, including how much additional beverage container
18 material will be collected by the expansion of the beverage container
19 redemption system; the cost to municipal solid waste entities of an expanded
20 beverage container redemption system, including lost revenues from the sale of
21 recyclable materials; the operational savings, if any, on material recovery

1 facilities; the loss to material recovery facilities from the removal of material
2 collected under the beverage container redemption system material from the
3 recycling system; and an estimate of the impacts on tipping fees or solid waste
4 fees at each material recovery facility or solid waste transfer station;

5 (4) the costs of operating a redemption center and other alternate points
6 of redemption under a stewardship plan and a recommendation on whether the
7 handling fee for redeemed containers should be altered or replaced with an
8 alternative means of compensating points of redemption;

9 (5) the impact on overall recycling in the State and the redemption rates
10 of beverage containers under 10 V.S.A. chapter 53 if the producer
11 responsibility organization (PRO) implementing the stewardship plan under
12 that chapter were authorized to retain 100 percent, 50 percent, or none of the
13 abandoned beverage container deposits, including:

14 (A) the estimated number of beverage container redemption sites in
15 the State under the PRO's stewardship plan under each option for the PRO's
16 retention of the abandoned beverage container deposits; and

17 (B) the geographic distribution of beverage container redemption
18 sites across the State under the PRO's stewardship plan under each option for
19 the PRO's retention of the abandoned beverage container deposits.

20 (6) the impact on the Clean Water Fund and State implementation of the
21 State's water quality programs and regulatory requirements if the abandoned

1 beverage container deposits were not deposited into the Clean Water Fund
2 under 10 V.S.A. § 1388.

3 (b) On or before January 15, 2025, the Agency of Natural Resources shall
4 submit to the House Committee on Environment and Energy and the Senate
5 Committee on Natural Resources and Energy a written report containing the
6 results of the systems analysis required under subsection (a) of this section.