

1 H.113

2 Introduced by Representative Browning of Arlington

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Conservation and development; beverage container redemption;
6 expansion

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to expand the
8 beverage container deposit-redemption system to include water bottles, wine
9 bottles, and containers for all noncarbonated and carbonated drinks, except for
10 milk, rice milk, soy milk, almond milk, hemp seed milk, and dairy products.

11 An act relating to expanding the scope of the beverage container redemption
12 system

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 1521 is amended to read:

15 § 1521. DEFINITIONS

16 ~~For the purpose of~~ As used in this chapter:

17 (1) "Beverage" means beer or other malt beverages ~~and~~, mineral waters,
18 mixed wine ~~drink~~ drinks, wine, soda water ~~and~~, iced tea, iced coffee,
19 carbonated and noncarbonated soft drinks, carbonated and noncarbonated
20 water, and all other nonalcoholic carbonated and noncarbonated drinks in

1 liquid form and intended for human consumption, except for noncarbonated
2 drinks labeled as 100 percent juice and milk, rice milk, soy milk, almond milk,
3 hemp seed milk, and dairy products. As of January 1, 1990, “beverage” also
4 shall mean liquor.

5 (2) “Biodegradable material” means material that is capable of being
6 broken down by bacteria into basic elements.

7 (3) “Container” means the individual, separate, bottle, can, jar, or carton
8 composed of glass, metal, paper, plastic, or any combination of those materials
9 and containing a consumer product. This definition shall not include
10 containers made of biodegradable material.

11 (4) “Distributor” means every person who engages in the sale of
12 consumer products in containers to a dealer in this State including any
13 manufacturer who engages in such sales. Any dealer or retailer who sells, at
14 the retail level, beverages in containers without having purchased them from a
15 person otherwise classified as a distributor, shall be a distributor.

16 (5) “Manufacturer” means every person bottling, canning, packing, or
17 otherwise filling containers for sale to distributors or dealers.

18 (6) “Recycling” means the process of sorting, cleansing, treating, and
19 reconstituting waste and other discarded materials for the purpose of reusing
20 the materials in the same or altered form.

1 (7) “Redemption center” means a store or other location where any
2 person may, during normal business hours, redeem the amount of the deposit
3 for any empty beverage container labeled or certified pursuant to section 1524
4 of this title.

5 (8) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Natural Resources.

6 (9) “Mixed wine drink” means a beverage containing wine and more
7 than 15 percent added plain, carbonated, or sparkling water; and that contains
8 added natural or artificial blended material, such as fruit juices, flavors,
9 flavoring, adjuncts, coloring, or preservatives; that contains not more than
10 16 percent alcohol by volume; or other similar product marketed as a wine
11 cooler.

12 (10) “Liquor” means spirits as defined in 7 V.S.A. § 2.

13 Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 1524 is amended to read:

14 § 1524. LABELING

15 (a) Every beverage container sold or offered for sale at retail in this State
16 shall clearly indicate by embossing or imprinting on the normal product label,
17 or in the case of a metal beverage container on the top of the container, the
18 word “Vermont” or the letters “VT” and the refund value of the container in
19 not less than one-eighth inch type size or such other alternate indications as
20 may be approved by the Secretary. This subsection does not prohibit including

1 names or abbreviations of other states with deposit legislation comparable to
2 this chapter.

3 (b) The Commissioner of Liquor Control may allow, in the case of liquor
4 bottles, a conspicuous, adhesive sticker to be attached to indicate the deposit
5 information required in subsection (a) of this section, provided that the size,
6 placement, and adhesive qualities of the sticker are as approved by the
7 Commissioner. The stickers shall be affixed to the bottles by the
8 manufacturer, except that liquor that is sold in the State in quantities less than
9 100 cases per year may have stickers affixed by personnel employed by the
10 Department.

11 (c) This section shall not apply to permanently labeled beverage containers.

12 (d) The Secretary may allow, in the case of wine bottles, a conspicuous
13 adhesive sticker to be attached to indicate the deposit information required in
14 subsection (a) of this section, provided that the size, placement, and adhesive
15 qualities of the sticker are as approved by the Secretary. The sticker shall be
16 affixed by the manufacturer.

17 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

18 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.