

1 H.14

2 Introduced by Representative Harrison of Chittenden

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Conservation and development; solid waste; beverage container

6 redemption

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
8 Secretary of Natural Resources to report to the General Assembly and the
9 Vermont Climate Council regarding the effectiveness of the beverage container
10 redemption system.

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

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

14 Sec. 1. AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES' STUDY OF THE

15 EFFECTIVENESS OF THE BEVERAGE CONTAINER

16 REDEMPTION SYSTEM

17 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

18 (1) In 2013, The Secretary of Natural Resources issued a report required

19 by 2012 Acts and Resolves No. 148 analyzing the solid waste systems of

20 Vermont (Act 148 2013 report).

1 (2) The Act 148 2013 report included an analysis of the effectiveness of
2 the existing statutory beverage container deposit and return requirements of
3 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, including the economic cost and effectiveness of each
4 part of the beverage container system.

5 (3) The Act 148 2013 report also attempted to analyze the
6 environmental costs and benefits of the beverage container redemption system,
7 but the report also acknowledged that the analysis did not include economic or
8 material costs of the beverage container redemption system outside of defined
9 system parameters.

10 (4) To fully understand the costs and effects of the State's beverage
11 container redemption system, the Secretary of Natural Resources should
12 update the Act 148 2013 report's analysis of the beverage container
13 redemption system to more accurately reflect the current costs and
14 effectiveness of the system to affected businesses and consumers.

15 (b) On or before January 15, 2022, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall
16 submit to the House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife, the
17 Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy, and the Vermont Climate
18 Council a report that updates the Act 148 2013 report's analysis of the State
19 beverage container redemption system. The report shall include all of the
20 following:

1 (1) an updated accounting of the cost of the beverage container
2 redemption system;

3 (2) an analysis of the effectiveness of the beverage container redemption
4 system, including whether or how the beverage container redemption system:

5 (A) enhances or detracts from overall recycling rates;

6 (B) negatively or positively affects markets for raw materials; and

7 (C) addresses the rates or amounts of litter in the State; and

8 (3) an analysis of the effect of the beverage container redemption system
9 on the greenhouse gas emissions in the State.

10 (c) Prior to issuing the report required by this section, the Secretary shall
11 consult with and seek input from persons interested in the implementation of
12 the beverage container redemption system, including beverage manufacturers
13 and distributors, retail stores, food service establishments, and environmental
14 advocacy groups.

15 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

16 This act shall take effect on passage.