

# Vermont House of Representatives

## Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife

Testimony on House Bill 175

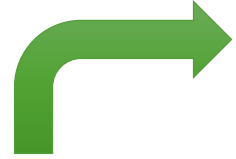
John Langhus, Owner  
Putney Road Redemption Center  
February 11, 2021, 9:00AM



# Putney Road Redemption Center



# Distributor



## Material Processor



- Collects/processes sorted containers
- Pays redemption centers 8 cents per container



## Redemption Center/Retailer



- Pays customer 5 cents per container
- Sorts empty containers for pickup



- Sells container to retail
- Collects 5 cents per container
- Pays material processor



- Collects unclaimed deposits



## Retailer



- Sells container to customer
- Collects 5 cents per container

## Customer



- Consumes product and returns empty container to redemption center or retailer



# 40 Years of Success for Vermont's Environment

- Consistently supported by large majorities of Vermonters
- Roughly 500 tons of recyclable materials taken out of the solid waste stream
- Clean stream of recyclables
- Model for responsible corporate behavior
- Putney Rd has operated in Brattleboro for over 30 years
- Build on our strengths, not our weaknesses



# Single-stream and the Demise of Recycling



- More material in Recycling Bins
- Less material actually getting recycled
- Closure of the Chinese Market (2019)
- Chittenden Solid Waste glass scandal
- Redemption provides the single best stream of recyclables to the market.

# Where The Nickles Go

FOODPANTRIES.ORG

Northfield, Vermont Food Pantries



ProjectFeed  
*the thousands*



... about 25 local charities, schools, churches, youth groups

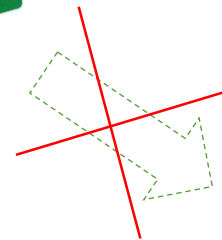


Team of lifelong Vermonters supporting their families



Keeping Tons of Recyclables out of Wyndham Solid Waste

And Where They DON'T Go...



# House Bill 175

- Increases the scope of the Bottle Bill to include:
  - Wine
  - Bottled Water
  - Juice and Sports Drinks
- Increases the deposit from \$0.05 to \$0.10.
  - Provides more incentive for consumers to return their redeemables so fewer get thrown away
- Increases the handling fee on “sorted” containers by half of a penny.

Thank you!





# Next Steps

- Describe what happens next:
  - Research the ideas generated?
  - Follow up with larger group?
- Generate action items for follow-up:
  - Start turning ideas into reality.