

Draft House E&E Committee Amendment

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Environment and Energy to which was referred House
3 Bill No. 158 entitled “An act relating to the beverage container redemption
4 system” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends
5 that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and
6 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. chapter 53 is amended to read:

8 CHAPTER 53. BEVERAGE CONTAINERS; DEPOSIT-REDEMPTION
9 SYSTEM

10 § 1521. DEFINITIONS

11 As used in this chapter:

12 (1)(A) “Beverage” means ~~beer or other malt beverages and mineral~~
13 ~~waters, mixed wine drink, soda water and carbonated soft~~ all drinks in liquid
14 form and intended for human consumption, except for milk, dairy products,
15 plant-based beverages, infant formula, meal replacement drinks, or
16 nonalcoholic cider. ~~“Beverage” also means liquor and ready to drink spirits~~
17 ~~beverage.~~

18 (B) Notwithstanding subdivision (A) of this subdivision (1),
19 “beverage” does not include vinous beverages until January 1, 2027.

20 (2) ~~“Biodegradable material” means material that is capable of being~~
21 ~~broken down by bacteria into basic elements.~~ [Repealed.]

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1 (3) “Container” means the individual, and separate, bottle, can, or jar, or
2 earthen composed of glass, aluminum or other metal, paper, plastic,
3 polyethylene terephthalate, high density polyethylene, or any combination of
4 those materials, and containing a consumer product beverage. This definition
5 shall not include containers made of biodegradable material noncarbonated
6 beverage containers with a volume greater than two and one-half liters and
7 carbonated beverage containers with a volume greater than three liters.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9 (11) “Cider” has the same meaning as in 7 V.S.A. § 2.

10 (12) “Plant-based beverage” means a liquid intended for human
11 consumption that imitates dairy milk, consists of plant material suspended in
12 water, and the primary protein source in the beverage is from plant material or
13 a derivative of plant materials. Plant-based beverages include beverages made
14 from rice, soy, nuts, oats, and hemp.

15 (13) “Vinous beverages” means all fermented beverages of any name or
16 description manufactured or obtained for sale from the natural sugar content of
17 fruits or other agricultural product, containing sugar, the total alcoholic content
18 of which is not less than one percent nor more than 16 percent by volume at 60
19 degrees Fahrenheit. As used in this section, “vinous beverages” does not mean
20 cider or a mixed wine drink.

21 § 1522. BEVERAGE CONTAINERS; DEPOSIT

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1 (a) Except with respect to beverage containers that contain liquor, a deposit
2 of not less than five cents shall be paid by the consumer on each beverage
3 container sold at the retail level and refunded to the consumer upon return of
4 the empty beverage container. With respect to beverage containers that
5 contain a vinous beverage, a deposit of 15 cents shall be paid by the consumer
6 on each beverage container sold at the retail level and refunded to the
7 consumer upon return of the empty beverage container. With respect to
8 beverage containers of volume greater than 50 ml. that contain liquor, a deposit
9 of 15 cents shall be paid by the consumer on each beverage container sold at
10 the retail level and refunded to the consumer upon return of the empty
11 beverage container. The difference between liquor bottle deposits collected
12 and refunds made is hereby retained by the Liquor Control Enterprise Fund for
13 administration of this subsection.

14 (b) A retailer or a person operating a redemption center who redeems
15 beverage containers shall be reimbursed by the manufacturer or distributor of
16 such beverage containers in an amount that is three and one-half cents per
17 container for containers of beverage brands that are part of a commingling
18 program and ~~four~~ five cents per container for containers of beverage brands
19 that are not part of a commingling program.

20 (c) If the Secretary determines that the producer responsibility organization
21 failed to meet the relevant redemption rate goal established in section 1534 of

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1 this title for two consecutive years **for one or more beverage container**
2 **category**, the beverage container deposit **for that category** established in
3 subsection (a) of this section shall increase by five cents. Within **one year** of
4 the Secretary’s determination under this section, manufacturers and distributors
5 shall comply with the labelling requirements of section 1524 of title **before**
6 **assessing the relevant deposit for the beverage container.**

7 (d) Containers shall be redeemed during no fewer than 40 hours per week
8 during the regular operating hours of the establishment.

9 § 1522a. **RULES**

10 ~~The Secretary may adopt rules, in accordance with 3 V.S.A. chapter 25,~~
11 ~~necessary for the administration of this chapter. These rules may include the~~
12 ~~following:~~

13 ~~(1) Provisions to ensure that beverage containers not labeled in~~
14 ~~accordance with section 1524 of this title are not redeemed.~~

15 ~~(2) Provisions to ensure that beverage containers are commingled.~~

16 ~~(3) Administrative penalties for the failure by a redemption center or~~
17 ~~retailer to remove beverage containers that are not labeled prior to pickup by a~~
18 ~~distributor or manufacturer. Penalties may include nonpayment of the deposit~~
19 ~~and handling fee established under section 1522 of this title for a reasonable~~
20 ~~period of time and for the number of beverage containers that were not labeled.~~

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1 ~~(4) Any other provision that may be necessary for the implementation of~~
2 ~~this chapter. [Repealed.]~~

3 § 1523. ACCEPTANCE OF BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

4 (a) Except as provided in section 1522 of this title:

5 (1) A retailer shall not refuse to accept from any person any empty
6 beverage containers, labeled in accordance with section 1524 of this title, of
7 the kind, size, and brand sold by the retailer, or refuse to pay to that person the
8 refund value of a beverage container as established by section 1522 of this
9 title, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

10 (2) A manufacturer or distributor may not refuse to pick up from a
11 retailer that sells its product or a person operating a certified redemption center
12 any empty beverage containers, labeled in accordance with section 1524 of this
13 title, of the kind, size, and brand sold by the manufacturer or distributor, or
14 refuse to pay the retailer or a person operating a redemption center the refund
15 value of a beverage container as established by section 1522 of this title.

16 (b) A retailer, ~~with the prior approval of the Secretary,~~ may refuse to
17 redeem beverage containers if a ~~redemption center or centers are established~~
18 ~~that serve the public need~~ stewardship plan that meets the requirements of
19 section 1532 of this title has been implemented by the producer responsibility
20 organization in the State and the retailer's building is less than 5,000 square
21 feet.

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1 (c) A retailer or a person operating a redemption center may refuse to
2 redeem beverage containers that are not clean, or are broken, and shall not
3 redeem beverage containers that are not labeled in accordance with
4 section 1524 of this title.

5 § 1524. LABELING

6 (a) Every beverage container sold or offered for sale at retail in this State
7 shall clearly indicate by embossing or, imprinting on the normal product label,
8 ~~or in the case of a metal beverage container on the top of the container, other~~
9 approved method secured to the container the word “Vermont” or the letters
10 “VT” ~~and the refund value of the container~~ in not less than one-eighth inch
11 type size or such other alternate indications as may be approved by the
12 Secretary. The label shall be on the top lid of the beverage container, the side
13 of the beverage container, or in a clearly visible location of the beverage
14 container. This subsection does not prohibit including names or abbreviations
15 of other states with deposit legislation comparable to this chapter.

16 (b) Each beverage container sold or offered for sale in the State that has a
17 deposit pursuant to section 1522 of this title shall include a Universal Product
18 Code and barcode. Each distributor shall provide the Universal Product Code
19 and barcode as part of its beverage registration or within 60 days of March 1,
20 2025, whichever occurs first.

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1 ~~A person who violates a provision of this chapter shall be fined not more~~
2 ~~than \$1,000.00 for each violation. [Repealed.]~~

3 § 1528. BEVERAGE REGISTRATION

4 No distributor or manufacturer shall sell a beverage container in the State of
5 Vermont without ~~the manufacturer registering the beverage container with the~~
6 ~~Agency of Natural Resources prior to sale, registering 30 days in advance of~~
7 ~~initiating sale of the beverage container and participating in a stewardship plan~~
8 ~~approved by the Secretary~~ unless distributed by the Department of Liquor and
9 Lottery. ~~This registration shall take place on a form provided by the Secretary~~
10 ~~and include the following:~~

11 ~~(1) the name and principal business address of the manufacturer;~~

12 ~~(2) the name of the beverage and the container size;~~

13 ~~(3) whether the beverage is a part of an approved commingling~~
14 ~~agreement; and~~

15 ~~(4) the name of the person picking up the empty beverage container, if~~
16 ~~that person is different from the manufacturer.~~

17 § 1529. REDEMPTION CENTER CERTIFICATION

18 A person operating a redemption center may obtain a certification from the
19 Secretary. A redemption center certification shall include the following:

20 (1) Specification of the name and location of the facility;

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1 (1) the producer responsibility organization has the capacity to
2 administer the requirements of a stewardship plan required by section 1532 of
3 this title; and

4 (2) the producer responsibility organization does not create any
5 unreasonable barriers to joining the producer responsibility organization and
6 shall take into the consideration the needs of small manufacturers that do not
7 generate a significant volume of containers.

8 (d) After approval, the producer responsibility organization shall maintain a
9 website that identifies:

10 (1) the name and principal business address of each manufacturer
11 participating in the producer responsibility organization; and

12 (2) the name of each beverage and the container size covered by the
13 stewardship plan.

14 (e) If the producer responsibility organization fails to implement the
15 requirements of this chapter, the rules adopted by the Secretary, or an approved
16 stewardship plan, the Secretary may dissolve the producer responsibility
17 organization.

18 (f) If no producer responsibility organization is formed, the Secretary may
19 require the formation of the producer responsibility organization or adopt and
20 administer a plan that meets the requirements of section 1532 of this title. If
21 the Secretary administers the plan adopted under section 1532, the Secretary

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1 shall charge each manufacturer the costs of plan administration, the Agency’s
2 oversight costs, and a recycling market development assessment of 10 percent
3 of the plan’s total cost to be deposited in the Solid Waste Management
4 Assistance Account of the Waste Management Assistance Fund, for the
5 purpose of providing grants to develop markets to recycle materials.

6 (g) The producer responsibility organization shall reimburse the Agency of
7 Natural Resources for all oversight costs in administering this chapter.

8 § 1532. STEWARDSHIP PLAN; MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

9 (a) Plan elements. On or before October 1, 2024, an approved producer
10 responsibility organization shall submit a stewardship plan to the Secretary. A
11 stewardship plan shall, at a minimum, meet all of the following the
12 requirements of this section:

13 (1) Convenience of collection. A plan shall ensure that consumers have
14 convenient opportunities to redeem beverage containers. The plan shall take
15 reasonable efforts to site points of redemption equitably across all regions of
16 the State to allow for convenient and reasonable access of all Vermonters to
17 redemption opportunities. A plan shall document how redemption services
18 will be available to consumers as follows:

19 (A) at least three points of redemption per county that provide an
20 immediate return of a deposit to a consumer unless a waiver is granted by the
21 Secretary;

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1 (B) at least one point of redemption per municipality with a
2 population of 7,000 or more persons that provides an immediate return of a
3 deposit to a consumer unless a waiver is granted by the Secretary; and

4 (C) how sites of redemption are or will be sited in areas with high
5 population density or located in centers designated under 24 V.S.A. chapter
6 76A.

7 (2) Fair operation and compensation to redemption centers. The plan
8 shall satisfy all of the following requirements.

9 (A) The plan shall describe how all locations that redeem beverage
10 containers are fairly compensated for their participation in the collection
11 program.

12 (B) There shall not be barriers to the participation in the collection
13 program for a redemption center, except for restrictions that are authorized by
14 the Secretary, by rule.

15 (C) The plan shall describe how management and sorting of
16 containers at redemption centers is minimized. The plan shall document how
17 brand sorting will be eliminated at points of redemption.

18 (D) The plan shall describe how materials will be picked up from
19 redemption centers on a timely basis.

20 (E) The plan shall maximize the use of existing infrastructure when
21 establishing points of collection under subdivision (a)(1) of this section.

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1 (3) Impacts to municipal recycling. The plan shall propose a protocol
2 for documenting the amount of materials collected under the plan that are
3 processed and marketed by solid waste management entities, including at
4 materials recovery facilities, and shall propose a compensation formula for
5 glass-, plastic-, and aluminum-covered beverage containers that are made
6 usable as recycled commodities.

7 (4) Education to consumers. The plan shall describe what education
8 efforts will be undertaken to increase the number of beverage containers
9 redeemed in the State.

10 (5) Consultation with stakeholders. The producer responsibility
11 organization shall consult with stakeholders on the development of the plan.
12 The plan shall include processes for regular consultation, which shall be not
13 less than annually, with stakeholders including the Agency, redemption
14 centers, municipal and private recycling organizations, and other stakeholders.

15 (b) Reporting. At a frequency required by the Secretary but not less than
16 annually, the producer responsibility organization shall report the following to
17 the Secretary:

18 (1) the name, address, and business hours of each redemption center
19 participating in the approved stewardship plan;

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1 (2) the amount, in containers and tons, and material type of beverage
2 containers redeemed under the plan and the redemption rate by the following
3 categories of:

4 (A) wine bottles;

5 (B) liquor bottle; and

6 (C) all other beverage containers;

7 (3) the location and amount of beverage container material that was
8 recycled and what products that beverage container material was recycled into;

9 (4) the carbon impacts associated with the administration of the
10 stewardship plan;

11 (5) the costs associated with administration of the stewardship plan,
12 including the costs of collection, management, and transportation of redeemed
13 containers and the amount received for commodities;

14 (6) a description of any improvements made in the reporting year to
15 increase ease and convenience for consumers to return beverage containers for
16 redemption;

17 (7) efforts taken by or on behalf of the manufacturer or distributor to
18 reduce environmental impacts throughout the product life cycle and to increase
19 reusability or recyclability at the end of the life cycle by material type;

20 (8) efforts taken by or on behalf of the producer responsibility
21 organization to improve the environmental outcomes of the program by

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1 improving operational efficiency, such as reduction of truck trips through
2 improved material handling or compaction or the increased use of refillable
3 containers in a local refilling system;

4 (9) a description and copies of educational materials and educational
5 strategies the producer uses for the purposes of this program; and

6 (10) any additional information required by the Secretary.

7 (c) Secretary of Natural Resources approval. The plan shall be submitted
8 to the Secretary, and, after concluding that the elements of the plan will
9 maximize diversion of recyclable materials, provide convenience to users, and
10 create a more circular economy, the Secretary's approval pursuant to this
11 subsection shall be for a period not greater than five years.

12 § 1533. PROGRAM AND FISCAL AUDIT

13 (a) Program audit. Beginning March 1, 2030 and every five years
14 thereafter, the producer responsibility organization shall conduct an
15 independent third-party program audit of the operation of the stewardship plan.

16 The audit shall make recommendations to improve the operation of the
17 collection program established by this chapter.

18 (b) Fiscal audit. Beginning March 1, 2026 and annually thereafter, the
19 producer responsibility organization shall conduct an independent third-party
20 fiscal audit of the program. The fiscal audit shall provide a transparent fiscal
21 analysis of the producer responsibility organization, its expenditures, the

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1 number of beverage containers collected, and the amount of unclaimed
2 deposits. The audit shall also provide the redemption rate of beverage
3 containers redeemed in the State after approval by the Secretary.

4 (c) Submission to Secretary. The results of each audit required under
5 subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall be submitted to the Secretary for
6 purposes of reviewing performance of the stewardship plan and for oversight
7 of the requirements of this chapter.

8 § 1534. BEVERAGE CONTAINER REDEMPTION RATE GOAL;

9 REPORT

10 (a) It is a goal of the State that the following minimum beverage container
11 redemption rates shall be satisfied by the specified dates:

12 (1) Beginning on July 1, 2026: 75 percent.

13 (2) Beginning on July 1, 2030: 80 percent.

14 (3) Beginning on July 1, 2035: 85 percent.

15 (4) Beginning on July 1, 2040: 90 percent.

16 (b) Beginning on July 1, 2025 and every five years thereafter, the Secretary
17 of Natural Resources shall submit to the Senate Committees on Natural
18 Resources and Energy and on Finance and the House Committees on
19 Environment and Energy and on Ways and Means a written report containing
20 the current beverage container redemption rate in the State.

21 § 1535. RULEMAKING

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1 The Secretary may adopt rules, in accordance with 3 V.S.A. chapter 25,
2 necessary for the administration of this chapter, including expanding the scope
3 or size of the beverage containers subject to the requirements of this chapter
4 when redemption technology allows for convenient and economically feasible
5 redemption.

6 Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 1530(c)(1) is amended to read:

7 (c)(1) ~~On or before January 1, 2020, and quarterly thereafter,~~ Every quarter,
8 at the time a report is filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, each
9 deposit initiator shall remit to the Commissioner of Taxes ~~any~~ 50 percent of the
10 abandoned beverage container deposits from the preceding quarter. The
11 remaining 50 percent of the abandoned beverage container deposits shall be
12 retained by the producer responsibility organization implementing the
13 requirements of this chapter for the deposit initiator. The amount of
14 abandoned beverage container deposits for a quarter is the amount equal to the
15 amount of deposits that the deposit initiator collected in the quarter less the
16 amount of the total refund value paid out by the deposit initiator for beverage
17 containers during the quarter.

18 Sec. 3. 10 V.S.A. § 1530(c)(1) is amended to read:

19 (c)(1) Every quarter, at the time a report is filed pursuant to subsection (d)
20 of this section, each deposit initiator shall remit to the Commissioner of Taxes
21 ~~50 percent of the~~ any abandoned beverage container deposits from the

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1 preceding quarter. ~~The remaining 50 percent of the abandoned beverage~~
2 ~~container deposits shall be retained by the producer responsibility organization~~
3 ~~implementing the requirements of this chapter for the deposit initiator.~~ The
4 amount of abandoned beverage container deposits for a quarter is the amount
5 equal to the amount of deposits that the deposit initiator collected in the quarter
6 less the amount of the total refund value paid out by the deposit initiator for
7 beverage containers during the quarter.

8 Sec. 4. 10 V.S.A. § 7714 is amended to read:

9 § 7714. TYPE 3 PROCEDURES

10 (a) Purpose; scope.

11 (1) The purpose of this section is to establish the public notice and
12 comment requirements that the Department must follow when adopting general
13 permits, except for general permits governed by section 7712 of this chapter,
14 and when considering other permits listed in this section.

15 (2) The procedures under this section shall be known as Type 3

16 Procedures. This section governs each of the following:

17 (A) Each general permit issued pursuant to the Secretary's authority
18 under this title other than a general permit subject to section 7712 of this
19 chapter. However, this section does not apply to a notice of intent under a
20 general permit.

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1 (B) Issuance of a dam safety order under chapter 43 of this title,
2 except for an unsafe dam order under section 1095 of this title.

3 (C) An application or request for approval of:

4 (i) an aquatic nuisance control permit under chapter 50 of this
5 title;

6 (ii) a change in treatment for a public water supply under chapter
7 56 of this title;

8 (iii) a collection plan for mercury-containing lamps under section
9 7156 of this title;

10 (iv) an individual plan for the collection and recycling of
11 electronic waste under section 7554 of this title; ~~and~~

12 (v) a primary battery stewardship plan under section 7586 of this
13 title; and

14 (vi) approval of a stewardship plan required under chapter 53 of
15 this title.

16 (b) Notice of application. The Secretary shall provide notice of an
17 administratively complete application through the environmental notice
18 bulletin.

19 (c) Notice of draft decision; comment period. The Secretary shall provide
20 notice of the draft decision through the environmental notice bulletin and shall

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1 post the draft decision to the bulletin. The Secretary shall provide a public
2 comment period.

3 (d) Public meeting. The Secretary shall hold a public meeting whenever
4 any person files a written request for such a meeting. The Secretary otherwise
5 may hold a public meeting at ~~his or her~~ the Secretary's discretion.

6 (e) Notice of final decision. The Secretary shall provide notice of the final
7 decision through the environmental notice bulletin and shall post the final
8 decision to the bulletin. The Secretary shall provide a response to comments.

9 Sec. 5. 10 V.S.A. § 1388 is amended to read:

10 § 1388. CLEAN WATER FUND

11 (a) There is created a special fund to be known as the Clean Water Fund to
12 be administered by the Secretary of Administration. The Fund shall consist of:

13 (1) revenues from the Property Transfer Tax surcharge established under
14 32 V.S.A. § 9602a;

15 (2) other gifts, donations, and impact fees received from any source,
16 public or private, dedicated for deposit into the Fund and approved by the
17 Secretary of Administration;

18 (3) 50 percent of the unclaimed beverage container deposits (escheats)
19 remitted to the State under chapter 53 of this title;

20 (4) six percent of the revenues from the meals and rooms taxes imposed
21 under 32 V.S.A. chapter 225; and

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1 (5) other revenues dedicated for deposit into the Fund by the General
2 Assembly.

3 (b) Notwithstanding any contrary provisions of 32 V.S.A. chapter 7,
4 subchapter 5, unexpended balances and any earnings shall remain in the Fund
5 from year to year.

6 Sec. 6. 10 V.S.A. § 6618(a) is amended to read:

7 (a) There is hereby created in the State Treasury a fund to be known as the
8 Waste Management Assistance Fund, to be expended by the Secretary of
9 Natural Resources. The Fund shall have three accounts: one for Solid Waste
10 Management Assistance, one for Hazardous Waste Management Assistance,
11 and one for Electronic Waste Collection and Recycling Assistance. The
12 Hazardous Waste Management Assistance Account shall consist of a
13 percentage of the tax on hazardous waste under the provisions of 32 V.S.A.
14 chapter 237, as established by the Secretary, the toxics use reduction fees
15 under subsection 6628(j) of this title, and appropriations of the General
16 Assembly. In no event shall the amount of the hazardous waste tax that is
17 deposited to the Hazardous Waste Management Assistance Account exceed
18 40 percent of the annual tax receipts. The Solid Waste Management
19 Assistance Account shall consist of the franchise tax on waste facilities
20 assessed under the provisions of 32 V.S.A. chapter 151, subchapter 13;
21 50 percent of the unclaimed beverage container deposits remitted to the State

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1 under chapter 53 of this title; and appropriations of the General Assembly.
2 The Electronic Waste Collection and Recycling Account shall consist of the
3 program and implementation fees required under section 7553 of this title. All
4 balances in the Fund accounts at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried
5 forward and remain a part of the Fund accounts, except as provided in
6 subsection (e) of this section. Interest earned by the Fund shall be deposited
7 into the appropriate Fund account. Disbursements from the Fund accounts
8 shall be made by the State Treasurer on warrants drawn by the Commissioner
9 of Finance and Management.

10 Sec. 7. SYSTEMS ANALYSIS OF BEVERAGE CONTAINER SYSTEM

11 On or before January 15, 2029, the Agency of Natural Resources shall
12 submit to the House Committee Environment and Energy and the Senate
13 Committee on Natural Resources and Energy a written report on:

14 (1) an estimate of the total system costs associated with the
15 implementation of the beverage container redemption system under 10 V.S.A.
16 chapter 53, including climate impacts;

17 (2) an estimate of the impacts of an expanded bottle bill on the recycling
18 system, including how much additional beverage container material will be
19 collected by the expansion of the bottle bill; the operational savings, if any, on
20 material recovery facilities; the loss to material recovery facilities from the

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1 removal of bottle bill material from the recycling system; and an estimate of
2 the impacts on tipping fees at each material recovery facility; and
3 (3) an estimate of the costs of operating a redemption center and other
4 alternate points of redemption under a stewardship plan and a recommendation
5 on whether the handling fee should be altered or replaced with an alternative
6 means of compensating points of redemption.

7 Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATES

8 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023, except that:

9 (1) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1521(1) (expansion of the definition of
10 beverage types) shall take effect on January 1, 2026;

11 (2) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1523 (requiring product registration to take
12 place with the producer responsibility organization) shall take effect on
13 March 1, 2025;

14 (3) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1524(b) (requiring a UPC label on containers)
15 shall take effect on March 1, 2025;

16 (4) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1531(a) (prohibiting the sale or distribution
17 without participating in **the** producer responsibility organization) shall take
18 effect on March 1, 2025;

19 (5) Sec. 2 (remittance of abandoned beverage container deposits) shall
20 take effect on January 1, 2026;

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1 (6) Sec. 3. (repeal of remittance of beverage container deposit) shall take
2 effect on July 1, 2031;

3 (7) Sec. 5 (changing the amount of funds deposited in the Clean Water
4 Fund) shall take effect on July 1, 2031; and

5 (8) Sec. 6 (Waste Management Assistance Fund) shall take effect on
6 July 1, 2031.

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13 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE