

How the nickel moves







The manufacturer/distributor, who has been holding on to the five cent deposit since selling the beverage, pays the five cent deposit to the redemption center/retailer. The redemption center is made whole.







The deposit passed circularly through the system









Handing fee





The manufacturer/distributor pays a separate "handling fee" to the redemption center/retailer: 3.5 or 4 cents per container, depending on whether the brand is in a commingling agreement. This is how redemption centers are funded.















MOM AND POP GROCERS

REDEMPTION CENTERS



VERMONT CONSUMERS



THE BEVERAGE INDUSTRY



SOLID WASTE DISTRICTS





Producer Responsibility Organization











Redemption Centers



- Concerns
- Lack of space due to inconsistent TOMRA pickups
- Increase in volume would result in too many "sorts"



Provisions in H.158

 PRO must: ensur[e] materials will be picked up from redemption centers on a timely basis (pg 13 line 18).

 The PRO must: [eliminate] brand sorting ... at points of redemption (pg 13 line 17).



Redemption Centers

Concern:

Redemption centers are not able to hire and keep good workers

Provisions in H.158

- Increases the handling fee 1 cent for non-commingled containers
- Increases the volume of containers handled
- Increases worker efficiency by eliminating brand-sorting



There is a ceiling to what I can pay my workers...The only way we can make more money in redemption is to increase our volume (of containers)

Jacob Trombley Owner of 5 Vermont Redemption Centers VTDigger, Dec 2022









 Retailers can't handle expansion under current system



- Lack of clear information about retailers' role in PRO
- Small retailers would be overwhelmed

Provisions in H.158

- Addressed in previous slide
- PRO must: consult with stakeholders on the development of the plan...
 - Add: specify large participating retailers in stakeholder group
- Retailers under 5,000 sq ft will be exempted. Small and medium retailers.







 There is no redemption center nearby



Provisions in H.158

- H.158 creates convenience standards that the PRO must adhere to including:
 - at least 3 redemption
 - centers per county • at least 1 redemption
 - center per population of 7,000 or more
 - statewide coverage of points with a measurable standard



MRFs, Solid Waste Districts

Concerns

- Loss of revenue from scrap materials
- Costliness of glass (CSWD)



Provisions in H.158

 PRO must: propose a protocol for documenting the amount of materials collected under the plan that are processed and marketed by solid waste management entities, including at [MRFs], and shall propose a compensation formula for...beverage containers

• The bill includes wine in expansion, but it is a later expansion date than other beverages

Amendments



 Increased enforcement and accountability • Trigger increase for deposit Wine timeline and deposit Technological upgrades for Redemption Centers





In closing



Thank OU.

Marcie Gallagher

Environmental Advocate, VPIRG

marcie@vpirg.org

