

**H.158: An Act Relating to the Beverage Container Redemption System:  
Timeline for Implementation**

<b>July 1, 2023</b>	Effective date of act; most substantive effective dates are embedded in the bill as set forth below.
<b>July 1, 2023</b>	Increase in handling fee from four to five cents for containers that are not commingled. § 1522(b)
<b>January 1, 2024</b>	Manufacturers of beverage containers sold or distributed in the State shall apply to ANR to form a producer responsibility organization (PRO). (For beverage containers currently subject to bottle bill but does not apply to liquor managed by DLL). § 1531(b)
<b>January 15, 2024</b>	DLL annually reports to ANR amount of collected liquor containers and redemption rate. § 1522(a).
<b>October 1, 2024</b>	An approved PRO submits a stewardship plan to ANR. § 1532(a)
<b>January 15, 2025</b>	ANR submits systems analysis of beverage container redemption system to Legislature. Sec. 7 of Act.
<b>March 1, 2025</b>	Each beverage container sold or offered for sale in the State that is subject to the deposit shall include a Universal Product Code and barcode on the label. § 1524(b)
<b>March 1, 2025</b>	Beverage containers (current bottle bill containers) prohibited from sale or distribution unless beverage is covered by the PRO's approved stewardship plan. § 1531(a)
<b>March 1, 2025</b>	Repeal of 10 V.S.A. § 1528 (beverage registration with ANR) and 10 V.S.A. § 1529 (redemption center certification with ANR). Sec. 8 of Act. PRO now responsible.
<b>July 1, 2025</b> annually thereafter	ANR submits to Legislature a report containing current beverage container redemption rate. § 1534(b)
<b>January 1, 2026</b>	PRO authorized to retain the unredeemed bottle deposits in excess of the first \$3 million of unredeemed deposits appropriated to Clean Water Fund. Sec. 2 of Act.
<b>January 15, 2026</b>	ANR reports to Legislature on status of recycling system prior to expansion.

<b>March 1, 2026</b> annually thereafter	PRO conducts independent third-party fiscal audit of the stewardship collection program. § 1533(b). Audit results are submitted to ANR.
<b>January 1, 2027</b>	Scope of beverage containers subject to deposit expands to include all drinks in liquid form intended for human consumption (with exceptions) when the beverage is sold in a container made of glass, aluminum or other metal, PET plastic, or HDPE plastic. Wine subject to redemption. § 1521.
<b>January 1, 2027</b>	Amount of unredeemed deposits deposited into Clean Water Fund before PRO is authorized to receive any unredeemed deposits increases to \$4 million. Sec. 3 of Act.
<b>January 1, 2028</b>	First beverage container redemption rate goal of 75%. Goals increase every five years until 2040 goal of 90% beverage container redemption. § 1534. Container deposit may increase if redemption rate for beverage container category is not met.
<b>March 1, 2030</b> every 5 years	PRO conducts an independent third-party audit of the operation of the stewardship plan. § 1533(a). Audit results are submitted to ANR.
<b>July 1, 2031</b>	PRO no longer authorized to retain unredeemed bottle deposits. First \$4 million of unredeemed deposits or 50% of unredeemed deposits, whichever is greater, will be deposited into the Clean Water Fund, and any unredeemed deposits in excess of what is deposited into the Clean Water Fund will be deposited in the Solid Waste Management Assistance Account. Sec. 3a of Act.