

1       Introduced by Committee on Environment

2 Date:

3       Subject: Conservation and development; beverage container redemption;  
4                   extended producer responsibility

5 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require all  
6 manufacturers and distributors of covered beverage containers to participate in  
7 a producer responsibility organization that shall manage the collection and  
8 disposition of beverage containers.

9 An act relating to establishing an extended producer responsibility program  
10 for beverage containers

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

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

13 CHAPTER 53. BEVERAGE CONTAINERS; DEPOSIT-REDEMPTION  
14 SYSTEM

15 § 1521. DEFINITIONS

16 As used in this chapter:

17 (1) "Beverage" means beer or other malt beverages and mineral waters,  
18 mixed wine drink, soda water and carbonated soft drinks in liquid form and  
19 intended for human consumption. "Beverage" also means liquor and ready-to-  
20 drink spirits beverage.

1 (2) "Biodegradable material" means material that is capable of being  
2 broken down by bacteria into basic elements. [Repealed.]

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

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

19 (7) "Redemption center" means a store or other location where any  
20 person may, during normal business hours, redeem the amount of the deposit

1 for any empty beverage container labeled or certified pursuant to section 1524  
2 of this title.

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

4 (9) “Mixed wine drink” means a beverage containing wine and more  
5 than 15 percent added plain, carbonated, or sparkling water and that contains  
6 added natural or artificial blended material, such as fruit juices, flavors,  
7 flavoring, adjuncts, coloring, or preservatives; that contains not more than  
8 16 percent alcohol by volume; or other similar product marketed as a wine  
9 cooler.

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

11 § 1522. BEVERAGE CONTAINERS; DEPOSIT

12 (a) Except with respect to beverage containers that contain liquor, a deposit  
13 of ~~not less than~~ five cents shall be paid by the consumer on each beverage  
14 container sold at the retail level and refunded to the consumer upon return of  
15 the empty beverage container. With respect to beverage containers of volume  
16 greater than 50 ml. that contain liquor, a deposit of 15 cents shall be paid by  
17 the consumer on each beverage container sold at the retail level and refunded  
18 to the consumer upon return of the empty beverage container. The difference  
19 between liquor bottle deposits collected and refunds made is hereby retained  
20 by the Liquor Control Enterprise Fund for administration of this subsection.

\* \* \*

10 (d) ~~Containers shall be redeemed during no fewer than 40 hours per week~~  
11 ~~during the regular operating hours of the establishment. [Repealed.]~~

12 § 1522a. ~~RULES~~

13        The Secretary may adopt rules, in accordance with 3 V.S.A. chapter 25,  
14        necessary for the administration of this chapter. These rules may include the  
15        following:

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

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

19 (3) Administrative penalties for the failure by a redemption center or  
20 retailer to remove beverage containers that are not labeled prior to pickup by  
21 distributor or manufacturer. Penalties may include nonpayment of the deposi

1 and handling fee established under section 1522 of this title for a reasonable  
2 period of time and for the number of beverage containers that were not labeled.

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

5 § 1523. ACCEPTANCE OF BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

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

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

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

18 (b)(1) A retailer, ~~with the prior approval of the Secretary~~, may refuse to  
19 redeem beverage containers if a ~~redemption center or centers are established~~  
20 ~~that serve the public need~~ stewardship plan that meets the requirements of  
21 section 1532 of this title has been implemented by the producer responsibility

1       organization in the State and the retailer's building is less than 5,000 square  
2       feet.

3       (2) A manufacturer or distributor that sells directly to a consumer from a  
4       retail location may refuse to redeem beverage containers if the retail location  
5       where the manufacturer or distributor sells beverage containers is less than  
6       5,000 square feet.

7       (c) A retailer ~~or that is not exempt~~, a person operating a redemption center,  
8       ~~or any other point of redemption~~ may only refuse to redeem beverage  
9       containers that are not clean; or are broken; and shall not redeem beverage  
10      containers that are not labeled in accordance with section 1524 of this title.

11      § 1524. LABELING

12      (a)(1) Every beverage container sold or offered for sale at retail in this State  
13      shall clearly indicate by embossing ~~or on the normal product label~~, imprinting  
14      on the normal product label, or ~~in the case of a metal beverage container on the~~  
15      ~~top of the container, other approved method secured to the container~~ the word  
16      “Vermont” or the letters “VT” and the refund value of the container one of the  
17      following in not less than one-eighth inch type size or such other alternate  
18      indications as may be approved by the Secretary.

19      (2) The label shall be on the top lid of the beverage container, the side of  
20      the beverage container, or in a clearly visible location on the beverage

1       container. This subsection does not prohibit including names or abbreviations  
2       of other states with deposit legislation comparable to this chapter.

11 (e) This section shall not apply to permanently labeled beverage containers.

12 \* \* \*

13      § 1527. **PENALTY REDEMPTION OF LIQUOR BOTTLES**

14 A person who violates a provision of this chapter shall be fined not more  
15 than \$1,000.00 for each violation. Notwithstanding any other provision of this  
16 chapter to the contrary, redemption of beverage containers of volume greater  
17 than 50 ml that contain liquor shall be subject to the following requirements:

1                   (2) Handling fee. Beverage containers subject to this section shall pay a  
2                   retailer that redeems a beverage container three and one-half cents per  
3                   container.

4                   (3) Retail redemption. A retailer shall not refuse to accept beverage  
5                   containers subject to this section or refuse to pay that person the refund value  
6                   established by subdivision (1) of this section for any container sold by the  
7                   retailer unless the container is not clean, broken, or has an exemption issued by  
8                   the Secretary. The Department of Liquor and Lottery shall not refuse to pick  
9                   up empty beverage containers subject to this section, pay the refund value, or  
10                  pay the handling fee to a retailer subject to this section.

11                  (4) Coordination with producer responsibility organization. The  
12                  Department of Liquor and Lottery may coordinate with and compensate the  
13                  producer responsibility organization to collect beverages subject to this section  
14                  at points of redemption that are a part of the collection plan developed by the  
15                  producer responsibility organization. Containers collected at these points of  
16                  collection shall not be subject to the handling fee established by subdivision  
17                  (2) of this section.

18                  (5) Performance goals and reporting. The Department of Liquor and  
19                  Lottery shall be subject to the redemption rate goals established in section  
20                  1534 of this title for beverage containers containing liquor. Beginning on

1 January 15, 2027, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Liquor and  
2 Lottery shall report to the Secretary of Natural Resources:  
3                   (A) the amount and tonnage of liquor bottles that the Department of  
4 Liquor and Lottery collected in the previous calendar year; and  
5                   (B) the redemption rate for liquor bottles in the previous calendar  
6 year.

7 \* \* \*

## § 1529. REDEMPTION CENTER CERTIFICATION

9       A person operating a redemption center ~~may~~ shall obtain a certification  
10      from the Secretary. A redemption center certification shall include the  
11      following:

12 (1) Specification of the name and location of the facility;.

13 (2) ~~If the certified redemption center redeems more than 250,000~~

14 ~~containers per year, a requirement that the certified redemption center shall~~

15 ~~participate in an approved commingling agreement; and~~

16 (3) Additional conditions, requirements, and restrictions as the Secretary

17 may deem necessary to implement the requirements of this chapter. This ~~may~~

18 shall include requirements concerning reporting, recording, and inspections of

19 the operation of the site.

20 \* \* \*

1        § 1531. MANUFACTURER PARTICIPATION IN PRODUCER

2            RESPONSIBILITY ORGANIZATION

3        (a) No manufacturer or distributor may sell or distribute a beverage  
4        container in this State without participating in a Secretary-approved producer  
5        responsibility organization.

6        (b) On or before January 1, 2026, manufacturers of beverage containers  
7        sold or distributed within the State shall apply to the Secretary to form a  
8        producer responsibility organization to fulfill the requirements of  
9        manufacturers under this chapter.

10        (c) The Secretary may approve, for a period not longer than 10 years, the  
11        producer responsibility organization, provided that:

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

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

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

1                   (1) the name and principal business address of each manufacturer

2                   participating in the producer responsibility organization;

3                   (2) the name of each beverage and the container size covered by the  
4                   stewardship plan; and

5                   (3) for each beverage container subject to the plan, a Universal Product  
6                   Code and a barcode shall be displayed on the container.

7                   (e) If the producer responsibility organization fails to implement the  
8                   requirements of this chapter, the rules adopted by the Secretary, or an approved  
9                   stewardship plan, the Secretary may dissolve the producer responsibility  
10                   organization.

11                   (f) If no producer responsibility organization is formed, the Secretary shall  
12                   either require the formation of the producer responsibility organization or  
13                   adopt and administer a plan that meets the requirements of section 1532 of this  
14                   title. If the Secretary administers the plan adopted under section 1532, the  
15                   Secretary shall charge each manufacturer the costs of plan administration, the  
16                   Agency's oversight costs, and a recycling market development assessment of  
17                   10 percent of the plan's total cost to be deposited in the Solid Waste  
18                   Management Assistance Account of the Waste Management Assistance Fund,  
19                   for the purpose of providing grants to develop markets to recycle materials.

1        (g) The producer responsibility organization shall reimburse the Secretary  
2        for the costs of overseeing the administration of the program under this chapter  
3        as follows:

4            (1) The Secretary shall annually provide an estimate of the costs of  
5        overseeing the administration of the program to the producer responsibility  
6        program, including staff costs, compliance, and oversight of the system.

7            (2) The producer responsibility organization shall provide any  
8        comments to the Secretary's budget within 30 days following receipt. The  
9        Agency of Natural Resources shall respond to all comments provided by the  
10        producer responsibility organization and may make changes to its budget in  
11        response to those comments. These comments and the responses shall be  
12        provided to the General Assembly as a part of the Secretary's budget.

13            (3) Reimbursement of Agency of Natural Resources costs under this  
14        subsection shall be subject to the State budgeting process, and the producer  
15        responsibility organization shall not be required to reimburse any Agency cost  
16        unless that cost is approved as a part of the Agency's budget.

17            (h) Manufacturers and distributors of liquor are exempt from the  
18        requirements of this section and the requirement to implement a stewardship  
19        plan under section 1532 of this title.

1       § 1532. STEWARDSHIP PLAN; MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

2       (a) Plan elements. On or before October 1, 2026, an approved producer  
3       responsibility organization shall submit a stewardship plan to the Secretary. A  
4       stewardship plan shall, at a minimum, meet all of the following requirements  
5       of this section:

6       (1) Convenience of collection. A plan shall ensure that consumers have  
7       convenient opportunities to redeem beverage containers. The plan shall take  
8       reasonable efforts to site points of redemption equitably across all regions of  
9       the State to allow for convenient and reasonable access of all Vermonters to  
10       redemption opportunities. A plan shall document how redemption services  
11       will be available to consumers as follows:

12       (A) at least three points of redemption per county, at least one of  
13       which provides an immediate return of a deposit to a consumer;

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

17       (C) how sites of redemption are or will be sited in areas with high  
18       population density or located in centers designated under 24 V.S.A. chapter  
19       76A.

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

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

4                   (B) There shall not be barriers to the participation in the collection  
5                   program for a redemption center, except for restrictions that are authorized by  
6                   the Secretary.

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

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

12                  (E) The plan shall maximize the use of existing infrastructure when  
13                  establishing points of collection under subdivision (1) of this subsection (a).

14                  (3) Education to consumers. The plan shall describe what education  
15                  efforts will be undertaken to increase the number of beverage containers  
16                  redeemed in the State.

17                  (4) Consultation with stakeholders. The producer responsibility  
18                  organization shall consult with stakeholders on the development of the plan.  
19                  The plan shall include processes for regular consultation, which shall not be  
20                  less than annually, with stakeholders including the Agency, redemption  
21                  centers, municipal and private recycling organizations, and other stakeholders.

1                   **(b) Reporting.** At a frequency required by the Secretary but not less than  
2                   annually, the producer responsibility organization shall report the following to  
3                   the Secretary:

4                   **(1) the name, address, and business hours of each redemption center**

5                   **participating in the approved stewardship plan;**

6                   **(2) the amount, in containers and tons, and material type of beverage**

7                   **containers redeemed under the plan and the redemption rate of beverage**

8                   **containers;**

9                   **(3) the location and amount of beverage container material that was**  
10                   **recycled and what products that beverage container material was recycled into;**

11                   **(4) the carbon impacts associated with the administration of the**  
12                   **stewardship plan;**

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

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

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

1                   (8) efforts taken by or on behalf of the producer responsibility  
2                   organization to improve the environmental outcomes of the program by  
3                   improving operational efficiency, such as reduction of truck trips through  
4                   improved material handling or compaction or the increased use of refillable  
5                   containers in a local refilling system;

6                   (9) a description and copies of educational materials and educational  
7                   strategies the producer responsibility organization uses for the purposes of this  
8                   program; and

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

10                  (c) Secretary of Natural Resources approval. The plan shall be submitted  
11                  to the Secretary, and, after concluding that the plan meets the criteria  
12                  established in section 1532 of this title and the elements of the plan will  
13                  maximize diversion of recyclable materials, provide convenience to users, and  
14                  create a more circular economy, the Secretary's approval pursuant to this  
15                  subsection shall be for a period not greater than five years.

16                  (d) Revision of stewardship goals. If the producer responsibility  
17                  organization fails to meet the beverage container redemption rate in section  
18                  1534 of this title for all other beverage containers, the Secretary may require  
19                  the producer responsibility organization to implement activities to enhance the  
20                  rate of redemption, including additional public education and outreach,  
21                  additional redemption sites, or additional redemption opportunities.

1       § 1533. PROGRAM AND FISCAL AUDIT

2       (a) Program audit. Beginning on March 1, 2032, and every five years  
3       thereafter, the producer responsibility organization shall conduct an  
4       independent third-party program audit of the operation of the stewardship plan.  
5       The audit shall make recommendations to improve the operation of the  
6       collection program established by this chapter.

7       (b) Fiscal audit. Beginning on March 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, the  
8       producer responsibility organization shall conduct an independent third-party  
9       fiscal audit of the program. The fiscal audit shall provide a transparent fiscal  
10       analysis of the producer responsibility organization, its expenditures, the  
11       number of beverage containers collected, and the amount of unclaimed  
12       deposits. The audit shall also provide the redemption rate of beverage  
13       containers redeemed in the State. The Secretary shall approve the audit results  
14       and the redemption rate of beverage containers included in the audit.

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

1        § 1534. BEVERAGE CONTAINER REDEMPTION RATE GOAL;

2            REPORT

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

5            (1) Beginning on July 1, 2028: 75 percent.

6            (2) Beginning on July 1, 2032: 80 percent.

7            (3) Beginning on July 1, 2037: 85 percent.

8            (4) Beginning on July 1, 2042: 90 percent.

9        (b)(1) Beginning on July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of  
10        Natural Resources shall submit to the House Committees on Environment and  
11        on Ways and Means and the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and  
12        Energy and on Finance a written report containing the current beverage  
13        container redemption rate in the State for the following two categories of  
14        beverage containers:

15            (A) liquor bottles; and

16            (B) all other beverage containers.

17        (2) Each annual report submitted under subdivision (1) of this subsection  
18        shall include a recommendation of whether the beverage container deposit for  
19        either of the beverage categories should be increased to improve redemption of  
20        that category of beverage container.

1       § 1535. RULEMAKING

2       The Secretary may adopt rules, in accordance with 3 V.S.A. chapter 25,  
3       necessary for the administration of this chapter.

4       § 1536. ANTITRUST; CONDUCT AUTHORIZED

5       (a) Activity authorized. A manufacturer, group of manufacturers, or  
6       producer responsibility organization implementing or participating in an  
7       approved collection plan under this chapter for the collection, transport,  
8       processing, and management of beverage container is individually or jointly  
9       immune from liability for conduct under State laws relating to antitrust,  
10       restraint of trade, unfair trade practices, and other regulation of trade or  
11       commerce under 9 V.S.A. chapter 63, subchapter 1 to the extent that the  
12       conduct is reasonably necessary to plan, implement, and comply with the  
13       producer responsibility organization's chosen system for beverage containers.

14       (b) Limitations on antitrust activity. Subsection (a) of this section shall not  
15       apply to an agreement among producers, groups of manufacturers, retailers,  
16       wholesalers, or the producer responsibility organization affecting the price of  
17       beverage containers or any agreement restricting the geographic area in which  
18       or customers to whom beverage containers shall be sold.

19       Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 7714 is amended to read:

20       § 7714. TYPE 3 PROCEDURES

21       (a) Purpose; scope.

5 (2) The procedures under this section shall be known as Type 3  
6 Procedures. This section governs each of the following:

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

14 (i) an aquatic nuisance control permit under chapter 50 of this  
15 title;

18 (iii) a collection plan for mercury-containing lamps under section  
19 7156 of this title;

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

1 (v) a primary battery stewardship plan under section 7586 of this

2 title;

3 (vi) a covered household products collection plan under section  
4 7813 of this title; and

5 (vii) a stewardship plan required under chapter 53 of this title.

6 (b) Notice of application. The Secretary shall provide notice of an  
7 administratively complete application through the environmental notice  
8 bulletin.

9 (c) Notice of draft decision; comment period. The Secretary shall provide  
10 notice of the draft decision through the environmental notice bulletin and shall  
11 post the draft decision to the bulletin. The Secretary shall provide a public  
12 comment period.

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

16 (e) Notice of final decision. The Secretary shall provide notice of the final  
17 decision through the environmental notice bulletin and shall post the final  
18 decision to the bulletin. The Secretary shall provide a response to comments.

19 Sec. 3. 10 V.S.A. § 1388 is amended to read:

20        § 1388. CLEAN WATER FUND



1                   (D) in State fiscal year 2032, the first \$500,000.00 of unclaimed  
2                   beverage container deposits remitted to the State shall be transferred to the  
3                   Solid Waste Management Assistance Account of the fund created pursuant to  
4                   section 6618 of this title;

5                   (4) six percent of the revenues from the meals and rooms taxes imposed  
6                   under 32 V.S.A. chapter 225; and  
7                   (5) other revenues dedicated for deposit into the Fund by the General  
8                   Assembly.

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

12                   Sec. 4. 10 V.S.A. § 6618 is amended to read:

13                   § 6618. WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE FUND

14                   (a) There is hereby created in the State Treasury a fund to be known as the  
15                   Waste Management Assistance Fund to be expended by the Secretary of  
16                   Natural Resources. The Fund shall have three accounts: one for Solid Waste  
17                   Management Assistance, one for Hazardous Waste Management Assistance,  
18                   and one for Electronic Waste Collection and Recycling Assistance. The  
19                   Hazardous Waste Management Assistance Account shall consist of a  
20                   percentage of the tax on hazardous waste under the provisions of 32 V.S.A.  
21                   chapter 237, as established by the Secretary; the toxics use reduction fees

1 under subsection 6628(j) of this title; and appropriations of the General  
2 Assembly. In no event shall the amount of the hazardous waste tax that is  
3 deposited to the Hazardous Waste Management Assistance Account exceed 40  
4 percent of the annual tax receipts. The Solid Waste Management Assistance  
5 Account shall consist of the franchise tax on waste facilities assessed under the  
6 provisions of 32 V.S.A. chapter 151, subchapter 13, transfers from the Clean  
7 Water Fund, and appropriations of the General Assembly. The Electronic  
8 Waste Collection and Recycling Account shall consist of the program and  
9 implementation fees required under section 7553 of this title. All balances in  
10 the Fund accounts at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward and  
11 remain a part of the Fund accounts, except as provided in subsection (e) of this  
12 section. Interest earned by the Fund shall be deposited into the appropriate  
13 Fund account. Disbursements from the Fund accounts shall be made by the  
14 State Treasurer on warrants drawn by the Commissioner of Finance and  
15 Management.

16 (b) The Secretary may authorize disbursements from the Solid Waste  
17 Management Assistance Account for the purpose of enhancing solid waste  
18 management in the State in accordance with the adopted waste management  
19 plan. This includes:

20 \* \* \*

1                   (11) Bottle bill implementation grants. The Secretary shall enter a grant  
2                   with the producer responsibility organization approved under chapter 53 of this  
3                   title. The grant shall be for four years and reimburse the cost of equipment and  
4                   improvements to infrastructure documented by the producer responsibility  
5                   organization in its approved stewardship plan. Any unexpended funds shall  
6                   roll over to the next fiscal year. Funds not encumbered by the end of fiscal  
7                   year 2032 shall be transferred to the Clean Water Fund.

8                   Sec. 5. BOTTLE BILL RECYCLING AND MATERIALS REPORTING

9                   A manufacturer or distributor collecting beverage containers subject to  
10                   10 V.S.A chapter 53 shall report recycling information to the Secretary of  
11                   Natural Resources in the same manner as recycled materials are reported to the  
12                   Secretary under 10 V.S.A. chapter 159. The information shall include:

13                   (1) the amount in containers and tons and material type of beverage  
14                   container collected; and

15                   (2) the location and amount of beverage container material and what  
16                   products the beverage containers were recycled into.

17                   Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATES

18                   This act shall take effect on July 1, 2025, except that:

19                   (1) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1531(d)(3) (requiring a UPC label on  
20                   containers) shall take effect on March 1, 2027; and

1                   (2) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1531(a) (prohibiting the sale or distribution  
2                   without participating in the producer responsibility organization) shall take  
3                   effect on March 1, 2027.