



BOTTLE BILL ADVISORY GROUP

April 27, 2026

Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance

TODAY'S AGENDA

- 1. Housekeeping and Logistics**
- 2. Latest Bottle Bill Stats**
- 3. 2026 Legislation**
- 4. Elements of P.A. 26-2**
- 4. DEEP Reporting Forms**
- 5. Wrap-Up**

HOUSEKEEPING AND LOGISTICS

This meeting is being recorded.

Please remain muted unless you are speaking.

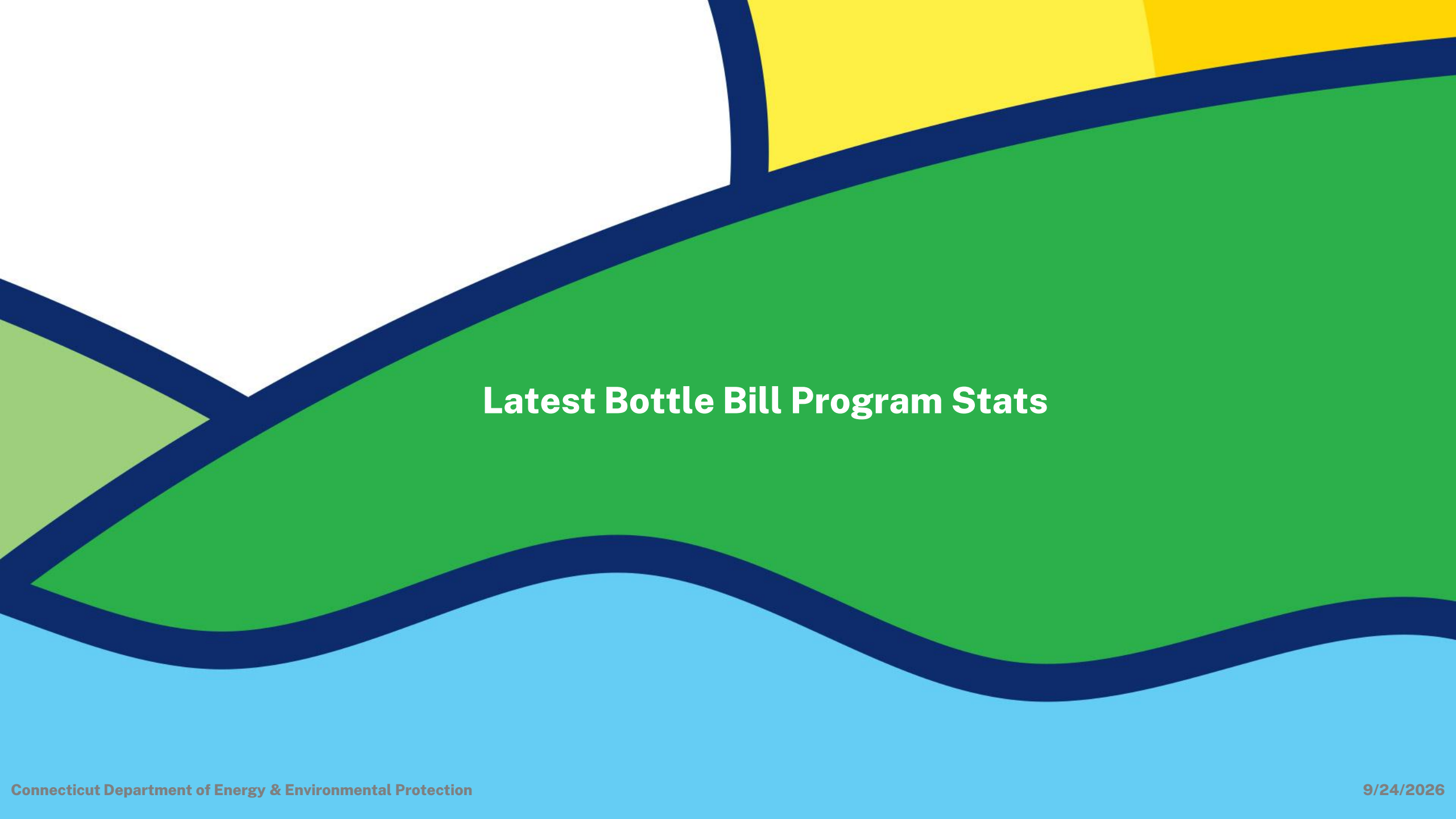
60 minutes are budgeted for today's meeting.

We will have an open discussion after the presentation(s).

Comments regarding CT's Bottle Bill Program can be submitted via email to DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov.

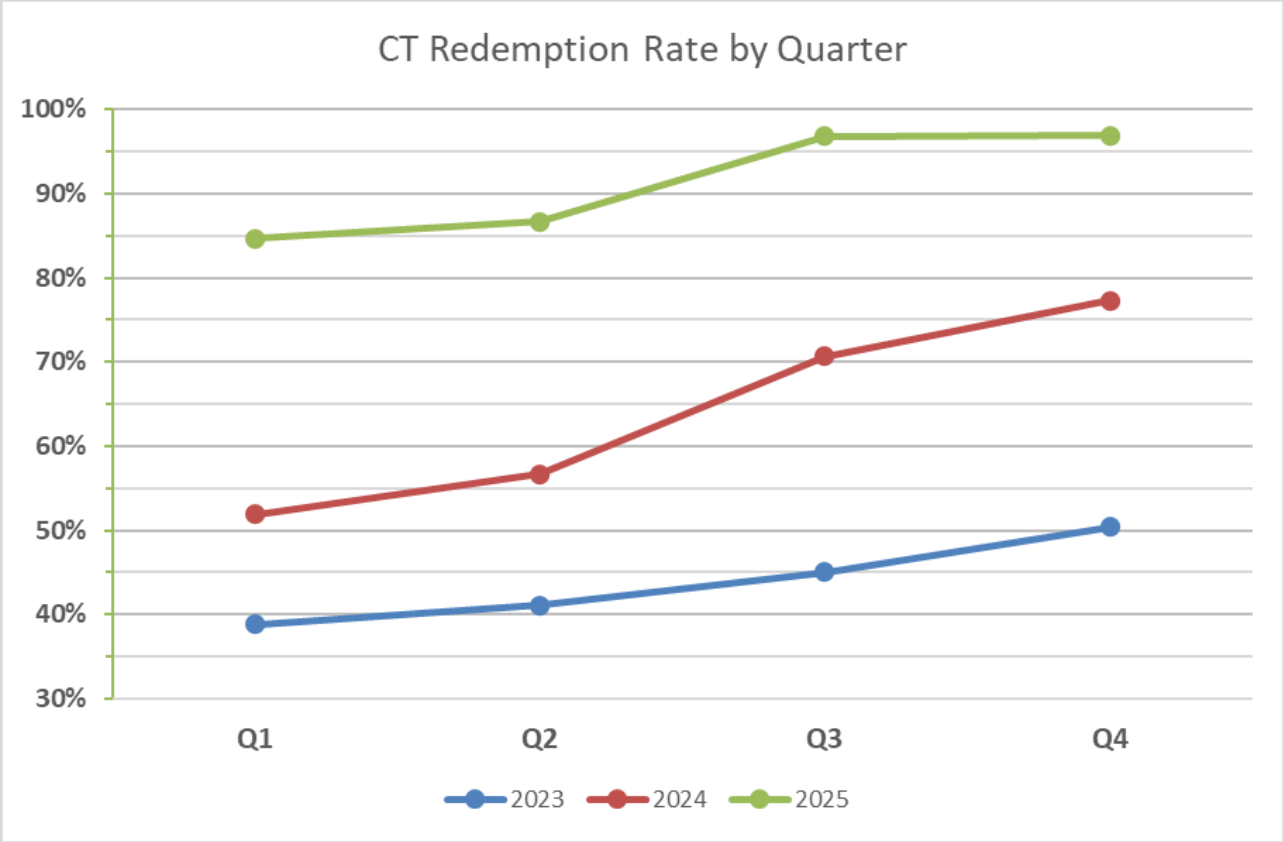
PURPOSE OF ADVISORY GROUP

- DEEP has received a significant number of questions about Bottle Bill changes and has seen substantial interest from consumers, retailers, distributors and legislators
- DEEP is committed to transparency, predictability, and efficiency in agency processes and has determined that continued stakeholder engagement is warranted and will provide for effective implementation of the Bottle Bill
- DEEP hosted a series of meetings to engage all stakeholders and legislators in a Bottle Bill Advisory Group to solicit input on the areas of interest and question regarding various components of Bottle Bill implementation
- Meetings are held virtually, noticed in advance and include 1) presentations by DEEP staff and others on relevant issues requiring stakeholder education, engagement or feedback and 2) an opportunity for input from meeting participants



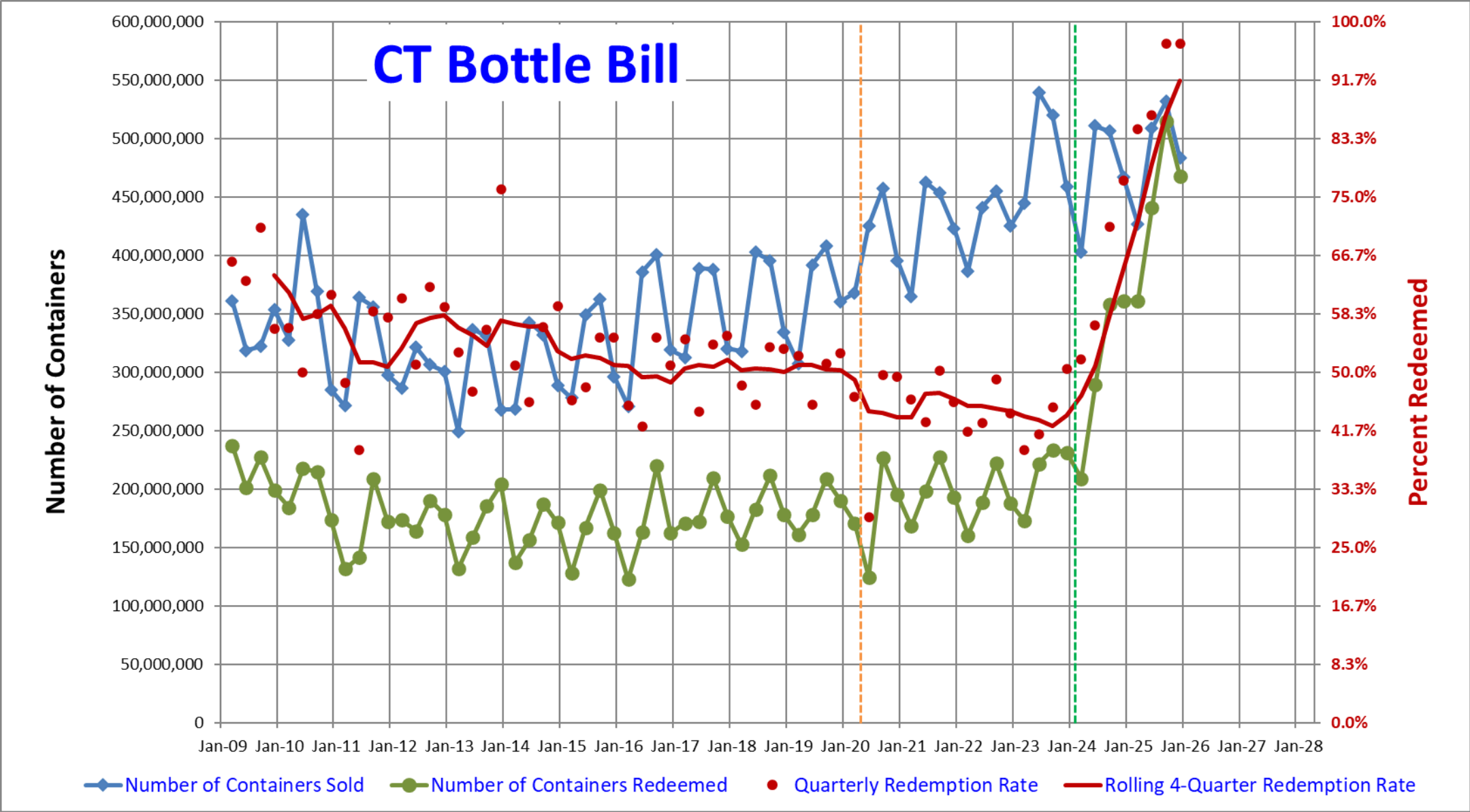
Latest Bottle Bill Program Stats

QUARTERLY REDEMPTION RATES



	2023	2024	2025	2026
Q1	38.8%	51.9%	84.7%	
Q2	41.1%	56.6%	86.6%	
Q3	45.0%	70.7%	96.8%	
Q4	50.4%	77.3%	96.9%	

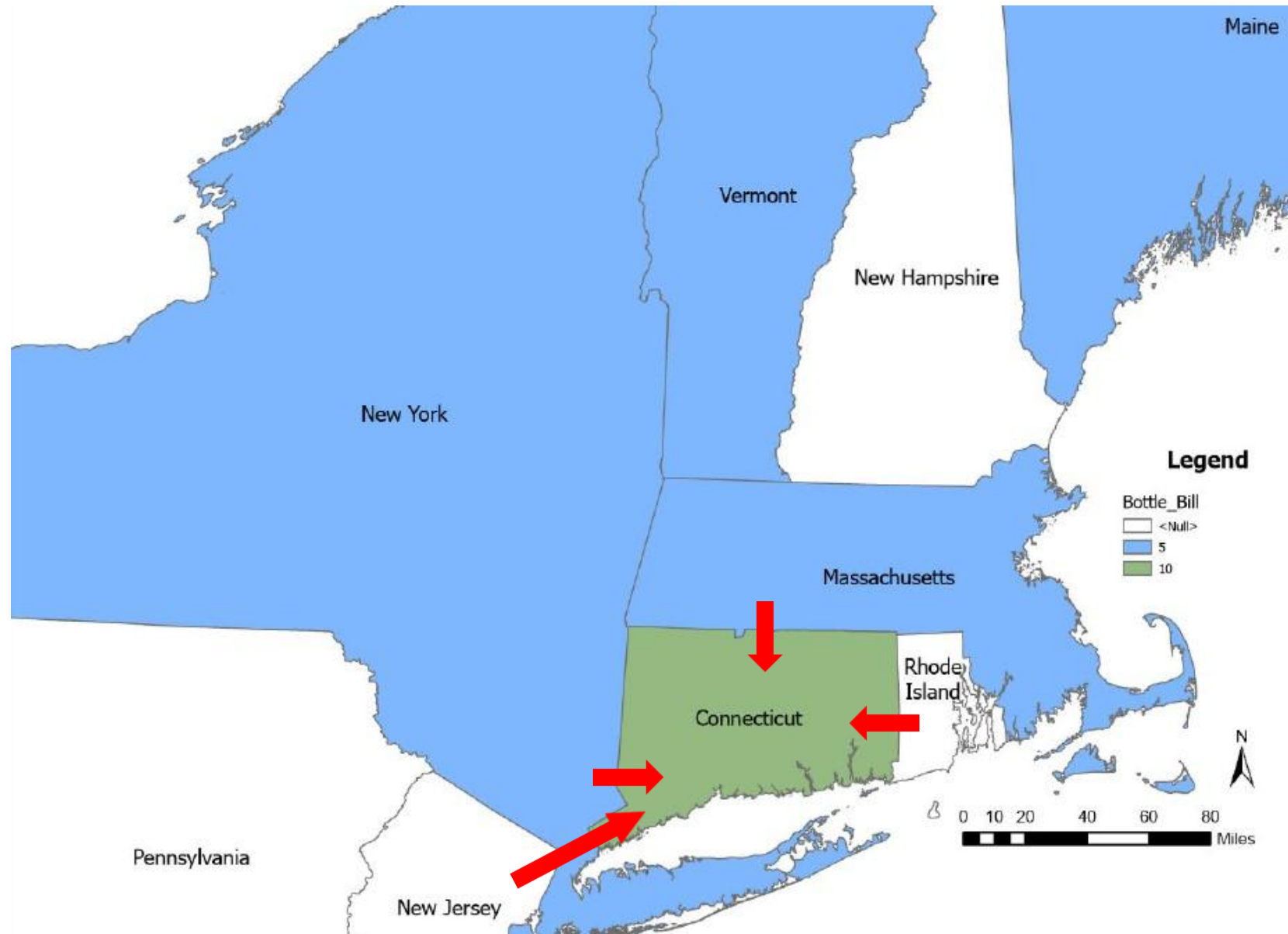
QUARTERLY REDEMPTION RATES



QUARTERLY REDEMPTION RATES

Quarter ending	Total Deposits this quarter (line 2)	Number of Containers Sold	Total Refund Withdrawals (line 5)	Number of Containers Redeemed	Quarterly Redemption Rate	Rolling 4- Quarter Redemption Rate	Fiscal Year / Calendar Year
31-Mar-2023	\$22,223,056	444,461,127	\$8,631,152	172,623,049	38.8%	43.7%	
30-Jun-2023	\$26,966,438	539,328,752	\$11,080,052	221,601,030	41.1%	43.2%	FY 2023
30-Sep-2023	\$25,977,741	519,554,818	\$11,683,453	233,669,062	45.0%	42.3%	
31-Dec-2023	\$22,926,269	458,525,388	\$11,554,085	231,081,709	50.4%	43.8%	CY 2023
31-Mar-2024	\$40,282,254	402,822,542	\$20,895,076	208,950,758	51.9%	46.6%	
30-Jun-2024	\$51,049,558	510,495,580	\$28,911,762	289,117,620	56.6%	50.9%	FY 2024
30-Sep-2024	\$50,622,479	506,224,790	\$35,775,082	357,750,820	70.7%	57.9%	
31-Dec-2024	\$46,707,531	467,075,310	\$36,115,217	361,152,170	77.3%	64.5%	CY 2024
31-Mar-2025	\$42,632,366	426,323,660	\$36,093,716	360,937,160	84.7%	71.7%	
30-Jun-2025	\$50,845,195	508,451,950	\$44,056,467	440,564,670	86.6%	79.7%	FY 2025
30-Sep-2025	\$53,158,633	531,586,330	\$51,463,174	514,631,740	96.8%	86.8%	
31-Dec-2025	\$48,301,307	483,013,070	\$46,789,727	467,897,270	96.9%	91.5%	CY 2025

CROSS-BORDER FLOW – CT WITH 10-CENT DEPOSIT



CT STAKEHOLDERS NEGATIVELY IMPACTED BY CROSS-BORDER REDEMPTION

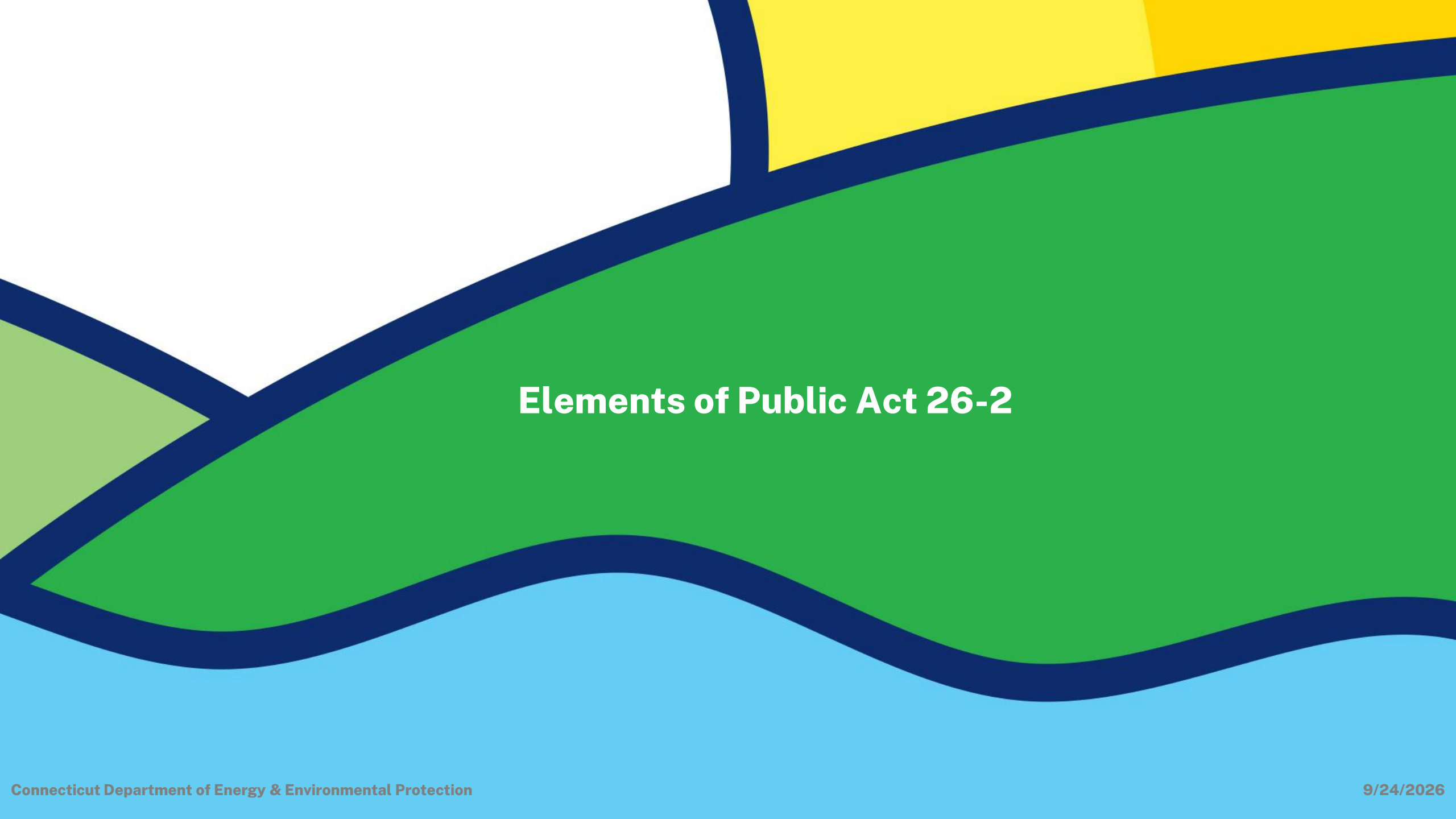
- **State of CT:** Portion of the pool of unclaimed deposits that goes to the state's General Fund is reduced
- **Beverage Distributors:** Portion of the pool of unclaimed deposits that goes to distributors is reduced
- **Beverage Distributors:** Must pay handling fees for all containers redeemed in CT
 - Beer, hard seltzer, hard cider, other malt beverages - 2.5¢, All other covered beverages - 3.5¢
- **CT Retailers:** Extra burden on bottle return rooms, especially those closest to state borders. More potential RVM downtime for regular customers if machines fill too quickly.



2026 Legislative Session

LEGISLATION PROPOSED THIS SESSION

- **S.B. 299 / P.A. 26-2**: AN ACT CONCERNING REDEMPTION OF OUT-OF-STATE BEVERAGE CONTAINERS
- **S.B. 457**: AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE'S BOTTLE BILL
- **S.B. 516**: AN ACT CONCERNING THE REDEMPTION RATE AND REFUND VALUE OF BEVERAGE CONTAINERS
- **S.B. 1236**: AN ACT CONCERNING THE AMOUNTS OF UNCLAIMED BEVERAGE CONTAINER DEPOSITS TO BE PAID FOR DEPOSIT IN THE GENERAL FUND



Elements of Public Act 26-2

PUBLIC ACT 26-2

- **Created new licensing requirement (rather than registration)**
 - \$2,500 application fee
 - Applies on/after July 1, 2026
 - Annual?
- **Establishes revised redemption limits:**
 - Recordkeeping for any individual who redeems more than 1,000 containers per day (previously 2,500)
 - Redemption cap of 4,000/day for any individual unless nonprofit organization or verified fundraising activity (previously 5,000)
 - All beverage containers transported in a single vehicle shall be treated as being attributable to one individual (new)
 - Records for redemptions of more than 1000 beverage containers from any one individual in one day shall be transmitted by such redemption center to DEEP each calendar quarter

PUBLIC ACT 26-2 (CONTINUED)

- **Handling fee adjustment for certain redemption centers**
 - For the period commencing April 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, the handling fee paid by a distributor for any beverage container described in subdivision (1) of this subsection to any redemption center that, on average, annually processes fifty million or more beverage containers, as confirmed by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in consultation with the Department of Revenue Services, and that does not utilize automated barcode or universal product code scanning for the redemption of all such beverage containers shall be reduced by not more than one cent. On and after July 1, 2027, any such reduction in the handling fee shall discontinue, provided such redemption center utilizes automated barcode or universal product code scanning for the redemption of all such beverage containers.
- **Given a lack of data for DEEP to make a determination in accordance with this new statutory section, DEEP sent out Handling Fee Guidance on 03/31/26 and requested sworn affidavits (with information) from each redemption center**
 - Implementation of reduced handling fee temporarily delayed by DEEP after consultation with legislators

HANDLING FEE UPDATE

- **Based on review of information returned in sworn affidavits from redemption centers and information gathered from DEEP field visits, it appears that two redemption centers will be subject to this reduced handling fee:**
 - Soda Stop Plus Thrift, LLC (Bridgeport)
 - Central Connecticut Redemption Center (New Britain)
- **Reduced handling fee of 1 cent per container will go into effect as of Friday, May 1, 2026**
- **Application of reduced handling fee to be reevaluated if/when such redemption centers install and “utilize automated barcode or universal product code scanning for the redemption of all such beverage containers”**

OTHER ELEMENTS IN P.A. 26-2

- **Civil penalties for violating bottle bill law increased**
 - 1st offense - \$500-\$750 (previously \$50-\$100)
 - 2nd offense - \$750-\$1,000 (previously \$100-\$200)
 - 3rd and subsequent offenses – not less than \$2000 (previously \$250-\$500) and shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor
- **Funds previously awarded to CT State Police for enforcement assistance transferred to DEEP**
- **Conditions/process for distributors to request a rebate if over-redeemed updated**

OTHER ELEMENTS IN P.A. 26-2 (CONTINUED)

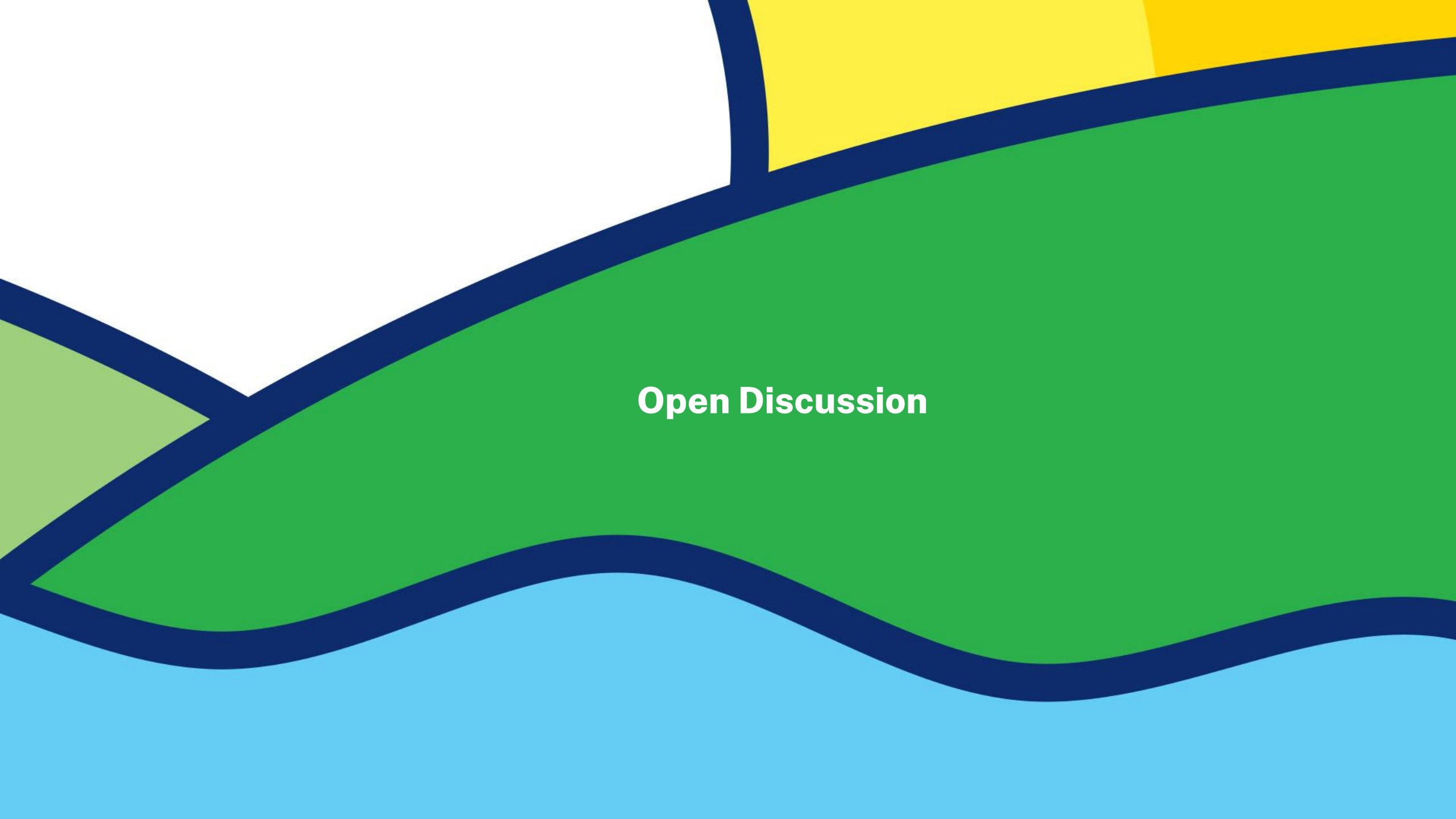
- **Conditions under which a dealer can refuse to accept empty containers from a customer expanded to include:**
 - (5) such dealer knows or has reason to know that a beverage container was not originally sold in this state as a filled beverage container; (6) such beverage container was previously redeemed; (7) such beverage container is damaged in any manner that prevents the reading or scanning of such container's barcode; or (8) such beverage container is on a list of beverage containers provided by a deposit initiator to such dealer as not being available for sale in this state
- **Conditions under which a distributor can refuse to accept empty containers from a dealer or redemption renter expanded to include:**
 - (3) such beverage container was previously redeemed, (4) such beverage container is damaged in any manner that prevents the reading or scanning of such container's barcode, or (5) such beverage container is on a list of beverage containers that such distributor previously provided to redemption centers and dealers as not being available for sale in this state



Online Forms for Redemption Centers

DEEP ONLINE REPORTING FORMS

- **Link to DEEP transaction form:** **[Redemption Center Over 1,000 Limit Form](#)**
 - Redemption centers also have a responsibility to submit quarterly reports to DEEP, with reports for Q3 and Q4 2025 due immediately (if not already submitted).
- **Link to DEEP quarterly report form:** **[Redemption Center Quarterly Report Form](#)**
- If you have any questions regarding these forms and/or requirements, please contact **laura.pointek@ct.gov**



Open Discussion



Next Steps

NEXT STEPS

- Next meeting: TBD
- Bottle Bill Advisory Group email list has migrated to a new newsletter platform.
Sign up at
<https://confirmsubscription.com/h/j/C996AD9922C81621>
- Question and/or feedback can be submitted via email to
DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov