

December 3th 2024

Commissioner Katie Dykes
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Commissioner Dykes,

I am writing to respectfully request that the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) take steps to replace the "CTRV" label currently displayed on returnable bottles and cans with "CT 10¢." This change would significantly benefit consumers by providing greater clarity on the value of their bottle and can deposits and improve the overall effectiveness of the state's updated bottle redemption system.

With the recent increase in Connecticut's bottle deposit to 10 cents, many residents remain confused when returning containers that only display the generic "CTRV" label, which does not indicate the precise deposit value. This lack of clarity has led to frustration among customers, particularly those who rely on the redemption system to reclaim their deposits efficiently.

Replacing "CTRV" with "CT 10¢" would offer several important benefits:

1. **Improved Transparency and Convenience:** Clear labeling allows consumers to easily recognize the 10-cent deposit, simplifying the redemption process and minimizing confusion at retail and redemption centers.
2. **Increased Participation:** Knowing the precise deposit amount encourages more residents to engage with the program, reinforcing the environmental goals of the updated bottle bill.
3. **Operational Efficiency:** Retailers and redemption centers will also benefit from this clarity, reducing potential disputes and streamlining the return process.

This change would align with the legislative intent of the deposit increase, which aims to promote sustainability by incentivizing recycling. By making the 10-cent value explicit on containers, we can further encourage the public to participate in the program, contributing to cleaner communities and a more effective recycling system.

I urge DEEP to consider this adjustment as part of its implementation efforts. This relatively small change will have a meaningful impact on both customers and the success of Connecticut's environmental initiatives. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am happy to discuss this further and provide additional feedback if needed.

Sincerely,
Shahil Kantesaria
RecyclX LLC
Bristol, CT