

Testimony in opposition to H6205: Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging and Paper Act

George Voutes, 17 Shore Road, Bristol, RI 02809

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To Chair Bennett and the honorable Members of the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee:

I oppose the bill as it will continue polluting our land and water with more packaging and bottles. The bill serves the interests of the packaging and beverage industries and not the interests of Rhode Island residents. This bill is not well thought out and lacks an extremely important bottle deposit program like those in other states. Deposits lead to a reduction of pollution and significantly increased recycling. The number of plastic bottles washing up on the beach in my neighborhood is astronomical and must be reduced quickly.

There are better constructed alternative bills in this year's house legislation (H6207 and H6206). These bills implement the recommendations from the "Special Joint Legislative Commission to Study and Provide Recommendations to Protect our Environment and Natural Resources from Plastic Bottle Waste", and which are better suited to finally turn the tide on pollution in RI.

Please do NOT bring H6205 to a vote.

Thank you very much for considering my input.

George Voutes

*George Voutes*