

Lou Mansolillo

From: Steven Scharf <steve@stevenscharf.com>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 1:56 PM
To: House Environment and Natural Resources Committee
Subject: Testimony in support of H6207

Dear Committee Clerk Louis Mansolillo,

Below is my testimony in support of H6207.

I am concerned about the intertwined problems of litter and waste. A bottle bill is a proven policy solution that addresses both of these issues.

For over a year, a bipartisan study commission brought in experts from across the country, examined our state's recycling and waste systems, and listened to local stakeholders. The results are clear - recycling refund programs work. In fact, the Keep America Beautiful 2020 National Litter Study found significantly less litter in states with bottle bills than in states without one.

H6207 creates a recycling refund system as well as an extended producer responsibility program that incentivizes major brands to develop product packaging that is easier to recycle. It's important that a recycling refund system be included because these programs:

-Capture a higher percentage of cans and bottles for recycling than curbside recycling alone -Reduce the amount of litter in communities -Reduce the amount of waste sent for disposal (in our case, to the landfill).

A bottle bill is good for the environment, good for the local economy, and popular! Please support H6207. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Steven Scharf

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