



Date: May 24, 2007

To: Members of the House of Representatives

From: Association of Oregon Recyclers

Re: Support SB 707 B

The Association of Oregon Recyclers (AOR) is one of the first state recycling associations in the nation – officially created in 1977. AOR's nearly 275-member businesses, government agencies, other non-profit organizations all believe that recycling and waste prevention are more than just "good for the environment" – they are unique and growing business practices that are quickly becoming vital aspects of commerce for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The bill makes two important changes to Oregon's landmark bottle bill.

- Water bottles and other beverage containers are a substantial part of the litter found throughout Oregon. Research in Lane, Marion and Multnomah counties shows that non deposit containers are twice as likely to be littered as those with the current nickel deposit. By placing a nickel redemption value on water bottles, SB 707 B will help clean up Oregon. It will get containers off the banks of our streams and into the commercial waste stream.
- SB 707 B also recognizes there is important work yet to do if Oregon is again going to be recognized as the nation's best practice model. The interim task force created by the bill is a critical element in the discussion of a more modernized bottle bill. AOR believes the most effective solution for Oregon is a system of convenient redemption locations that allow consumers to return all beverage containers to a clean, staffed facility. The interim task force offers a setting in which experts, interested parties and others can come together to craft the most effective, modern and dynamic redemption system.

AOR asks for your support of SB 707 B.