

RE: Testimony in Favor of SB 642.

3/4/2024

Stephanie Compton
814 Washington Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21230

Dear Chair and members of the EEE Committee,

I'm writing in strong support of Maryland's Bottle Bill, Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program HB 735/SB 642.

I'm a community organizer in Baltimore and regularly clean up litter on my own and organize community clean up efforts and track the items that we pick up. Every clean up finds many valuable items that are not currently valued in Maryland, Beverage containers: aluminum, glass, and plastic.

Bottle Bills have proven to improve recycling rates, which our state could use a boost. More importantly, States with Bottle Bills have reduced rates in litter because people collect them to claim the value of them.

Adding incentives to the recovering of used beverage containers will further motivate the collection of these items. Reuse and recycling create more jobs. Therefore, this is a smart economic decision; Creating jobs that clean-up, conserve, and transition us into the future where less waste is generated which leads to cleaner, safer communities.

Please pass SB 642.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Compton