



Office of the Mayor  
Gavin Buckley, Mayor  
160 Duke of Gloucester Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-2517

February 12, 2025

The Honorable Marc Korman  
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee  
Room 251  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Support of House Bill 735 (Senate Bill 642) Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program

Dear Delegate Korman and Committee Members:

As the Mayor of the City of Annapolis, Maryland, I am writing to express my support for HB735, the Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program, a.k.a. the Bottle Bill. This legislation will address a significant and growing environmental problem - beverage container litter, including single use plastic pollution. By diverting empty metal, glass, and plastic containers from landfills, incinerators, and the environment, the volume of solid waste generated will be reduced, relieving municipalities from some of the significant financial burdens associated with municipal waste and recycling and improving the environmental quality of our communities.

The legislation will add a small refundable deposit to beverage containers, to be refunded when the container is returned by consumers for recycling. By placing a value on empty containers, the public will be incentivized not to litter and to retrieve containers from the environment for the refund. Other benefits of the Bottle Bill are reduced greenhouse gas emissions, creation of new jobs in the recycling industry, and creation of high-quality materials that can be recycled into new beverage containers.

The City of Annapolis is committed to sustainability and values the health of our community and the protection of our natural resources that are vitally important to our economy and culture. The City supports the goal of HB 735 to reduce litter, pollution, and costs associated with beverage containers.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation and for supporting our efforts to protect the environment and reach our sustainability goals.

Sincerely,

Gavin Buckley  
Mayor