

February 9, 2026

Delegate Terrasa

Environment and Transportation Committee

217 Lowe House Office Building

6 Bladen St.

Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 0331 - Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Delegate Terrasa and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

As a resident and eco-friendly business owner in Montgomery County, Maryland, I, Lindsey Turnbull, am writing to ask for your support of HB 0331 - Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program.

The Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program would increase recycling programs and reduce litter and plastic pollution by incentivizing recycling, by placing a refundable deposit on beverage containers sold in the state that can be returned when the bottle or can is returned. This bill creates a fund that will also support counties across the state to implement recycling plans, including electronics recycling, paint, newsprint, and phone books.

As the owner of a small business that focuses on reducing plastic usage and waste, it is incredibly disheartening to see plastic and other waste along our state's roads, in our parks, on our hiking trails, and in our communities. This litter is harmful to residents as well as wildlife. Additionally, this waste places a burden on our sewage systems, where the waste often winds up. While Montgomery County has reliable recycling collection, it is simply not enough to encourage proper disposal of bottles and cans.

Research shows that bottle bills incentivize people to return bottles and cans and encourage people to pick up littered bottles and cans in their neighborhood. Similar bills have reduced container litter from 69% to 84%, meaning a cleaner, healthier Maryland. Furthermore, bottle bills create jobs for those who collect, sort, and transport containers for recycling, adding to our state's economy and spending power.

Overall, I believe the Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program will add jobs to the state while increasing our recycling rate, making the state more beautiful and more economically prosperous.

I urge a favorable report on HB 0331.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Turnbull Owner, From Here to Home Essentials