



HOUSE BILL 824

Beverage Container Deposit Program - Establishment and Advisory Commission

February 26, 2020

Position: INFO

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Environment & Transportation Committee:

After reviewing House Bill 824, we do not believe it is intended to apply to restaurants, which purchase beverages in containers to sell to customers for mostly on-premise consumption. Part of the Advisory Commission directives outlined on page 3 of this legislation is to "*address how to include all on-the-go beverage containers in the program.*"

As we have previously shared with the Committee during consideration of similar legislation in prior Sessions, it would be difficult for restaurants to recover any container deposits we would be required to pay under such a program. Storing and transporting containers for redemption would pose logistical challenges for restaurants, especially for those with limited outdoor storage space.

However, if the program required by this legislation is intended to also include beverage containers sold for on-premise consumption, we would request that our organization be added to the Advisory Commission established under the bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melvin R. Thompson" with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melvin R. Thompson
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs and Public Policy