



**MEMO IN OPPOSITION
S.237-C (May) / A.6353-A (Glick)**

MACNY - The Manufacturers Association of Central New York opposes S.237-C (May)/A.6353-A (Glick), which would expand the bottle deposit law to include, by 2025, noncarbonated soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices with less than 100% juice, coffee and tea beverages, and cider. The bill would also, starting by April 1, 2029, include all “drinkable liquid” for consumption except FDA regulated substances, milk, plant-based dairy substitutes, infant formula, or 100 percent fruit or vegetable juices. In addition, the bill would increase the bottle deposit amount and handling fee, as well as impose additional criteria on entities that collect containers from redemption centers.

MACNY is a non-profit trade association representing more than 300 manufacturing companies and businesses throughout the Upstate/Central New York region to include family-owned companies that operate dozens of convenience stores. We have concerns with this legislation because it would not only increase upfront costs for the purchase and installation of new equipment, but it also would remove valuable post-consumer materials out of municipal recycling programs and divert those materials to store-based recycling.

Citing a 2023 study, “Current Recycling Systems in New York State,” conducted by the Center for Sustainable Materials Management established by SUNY ESF, aluminum cans are the most valuable commodity in municipal waste with plastics like PET only the fifth most valuable. Expanding the state’s current bottle deposit law would defeat the well-meaning intention of the bill because it would reduce the average per-ton recovery value of the municipal recycling stream, while overwhelming certain convenience stores with overburdensome costs and piles of redeemed bottles and cans that compromise sanitation and public health.

Furthermore, the State of New York already operates two separate state-wide recycling programs. Expanding bottle deposit programs in the state would just duplicate what curbside collection programs are already achieving at a lower cost.

For these reasons stated above, MACNY respectfully opposes this legislation.