

March 26, 2001

H 772. DEPOSITS ON BEVERAGE CONTAINERS. TO DISCOURAGE LITTERING AND TO ENCOURAGE RECYCLING BY REQUIRING A DEPOSIT ON BEVERAGE CONTAINERS AND REQUIRING RETAILERS, REDEMPTION CENTERS, AND DISTRIBUTORS TO ACCEPT RETURNED BEVERAGE CONTAINERS AND REFUND THE DEPOSITS. Requires consumers to pay refundable deposits on beverages sold in glass, metal, or plastic containers. Sets refund values as follows: for beverage containers containing any beverage but fortified or unfortified wine or liquor, 10 cents; for beverage containers of 50 milliliters or more containing fortified or unfortified wine or liquor, 25 cents. Requires manufacturers to emboss or imprint the refund value on the product label or container. Requires retailers to accept beverage containers from consumers and pay the consumer the refund value for the containers, subject to a maximum of 24 containers per consumer per day. Retailers may refuse to accept containers that are not labeled with the refund value, or that are not empty or are contaminated. A retailer may also refuse to accept containers if the retailer has contracted with a private redemption center approved by the Sec'y of Environment and Natural Resources. Vending machine operators who are not otherwise retailers of beverages covered by the law are relieved of the duty to redeem containers if they make arrangements with another retailer or a private redemption center to redeem the containers. Authorizes Sec'y to approve private redemption centers for the return of empty beverage containers. Requires such centers to accept beverage containers from consumers and pay the refund value, provided the containers are the kind, size, and brand names of beverages sold by the retailers served by the redemption center. Requires distributors to accept beverage containers from retailers and private redemption centers and pay the retailer or center the refund value plus a handling fee of 5 cents per container. Requires that beverage containers be made of recyclable or recycled materials. Creates Unredeemed Beverage Container Deposits Fund, consisting of abandoned deposits remitted by distributors. Specifies how monies are to be used. Provides for civil penalties of up to \$1,000 for violations of the act. Effective Jan. 1, 2002 and applies to beverage containers sold or offered for sale after that date.

Intro. by Edwards.

Ref. to Rules	GS 130A
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