

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2916**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Thomas M. Stanley*

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to expand the bottle bill.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>John V. Fernandes</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2916**

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By Mr. Stanley of Waltham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2916) of Thomas M. Stanley and others for legislation to require deposits on certain non-carbonated beverage containers. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2984 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

\_\_\_\_\_  
In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act to expand the bottle bill.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 321 of Chapter 94 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the definition for “beverage”, and inserting in  
3 place thereof the following definition:—

4 “Beverage”, flavored and unflavored water, spring water, vitamin water, and other non-  
5 carbonated water beverages, soda water or similar carbonated soft drinks; mineral water, and  
6 beer and other malt beverages; but shall not include alcoholic beverages other than beer and malt  
7 beverages as defined in chapter 138, dairy products, natural fruit juices or wine.

8 SECTION 2. Section 321 of Chapter 94 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006  
9 Official Edition is hereby amended by striking out the words “sixteen fluid ounces or more, but

10 less than five gallons”, beginning in line 30, and inserting in place thereof the following the  
11 words:- “equal to or greater than four ounces but less than or equal to one hundred and twenty-  
12 eight ounces.”

13 SECTION 3. Section 321 of Chapter 94 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006  
14 Official Edition is hereby amended by striking the words “eight ounces or more but less than five  
15 gallons”, in line 35, and inserting in place thereof the following words:- “equal to or greater than  
16 four ounces but less than or equal to one hundred and twenty-eight ounces.”

17 SECTION 4. Section 323 of Chapter 94 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2006  
18 Official Edition is hereby amended by striking out subsection (h) and adding in place thereof the  
19 following:- (h) Any bottler or distributor who is subject to the provisions of paragraphs (c), (d)  
20 or (e) shall maintain a separate account to be known as the Deposit Transaction Fund. Said fund  
21 shall be kept separate from all other revenues and accounts. Each bottler or distributor shall place  
22 in said fund the refund value for all non-reusable beverage containers excluding those beverage  
23 containers containing flavored and unflavored water, spring water, vitamin water, and other non-  
24 carbonated water beverages it sells subject to the provisions of this chapter. Any bottler or  
25 distributor who is subject to the provisions of paragraphs (c), (d) or (e) shall also maintain a  
26 separate account to be known as the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Fund. Said fund shall  
27 be kept separate from all other revenues and accounts. Each bottler or distributor shall place in  
28 said fund the refund value for all non-reusable beverage containers containing flavored and  
29 unflavored water, spring water, vitamin water, and other non-carbonated water beverages.

30 Except as specified in section three hundred and twenty-three D, amounts in such fund  
31 may only be expended to pay refund values paid after December thirty-first, nineteen hundred

32 and eighty-nine for returned non-reusable beverage containers pursuant to paragraphs (c), (d) and  
33 (e). Amounts in such fund shall not be used to pay the handling fees required by paragraphs (c),  
34 (d) and (e). Each such fund shall be maintained by said bottlers and distributors on behalf of  
35 consumers who have purchased refundable non-reusable beverage containers and on behalf of  
36 the commonwealth; except as specified in section three hundred and twenty-three C, for no  
37 purpose are amounts in such fund to be regarded as income of said bottlers or distributors.

38 SECTION 5. Section 323C of Chapter 94 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2006  
39 Official Edition is hereby amended in line 1 after the word “fund” by adding the following:- and  
40 Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Fund

41 SECTION 6. Section 323D of Chapter 94 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2006  
42 Official Edition is hereby amended by striking the section in its entirety and replacing it with the  
43 following new language:- Section 323D. By the tenth day of each month, each bottler or  
44 distributor shall turn over to the commissioner of revenue any deposit amounts deemed to be  
45 abandoned at the close of the preceding month, pursuant to section three hundred and twenty-  
46 three C. Such amounts shall be paid from the Deposit Transaction Fund and Water and  
47 Wastewater Infrastructure Fund respectively. Amounts collected from the Water and Wastewater  
48 Infrastructure Fund shall be used by entities that maintain and replace water and wastewater  
49 infrastructure. Said funds shall be administered and distributed by the Department of Revenue,  
50 Division of Local Services. All other Amounts collected by the commissioner of revenue  
51 pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Clean Environment Fund, established pursuant  
52 to section three hundred and twenty-three F.

53 SECTION 7: This act shall take effect on December thirty-first, two thousand and fifteen.