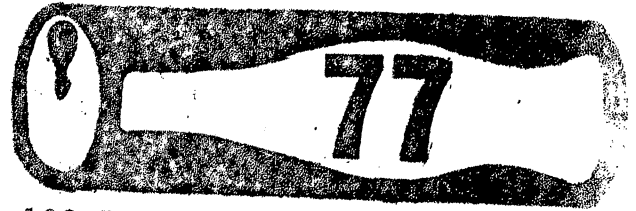


COMMITTEE FOR A MASSACHUSETTS BOTTLE BILL



120 Boylston St., Rm. 320
Boston, MA 02116 (617) 423-1790

December 21, 1976

Dear Friend,

Thanks to the efforts of people like you, we almost pulled off an election year miracle. But we have a new prediction to make:

The 77 Committee for a Massachusetts Bottle Bill promises to be the strongest grass roots environmental coalition this state has ever seen. We wish to extend you an invitation to join us in persuading the legislature that the 1.2 million referendum voters who said "yes" to the Bottle Bill in fact represent far more than 49.6% of the Commonwealth's electorate.

Despite the usual reluctance of legislators to reconsider a measure rejected by the voters, there is considerable sentiment that the Bottle Bill deserves another hearing.

The outrage and depression that followed our razor-thin defeat at the hands of unprincipled opponents who bought this election, has inspired more positive developments than we could possibly have foreseen:

- (1) We have received hundreds of phone calls and letters from supporters who want to help continue the fight.
- (2) We have refiled the bottle bill with the sponsorship of 57 representatives and 11 senators - probably more sponsors than any other legislation filed this year.
- (3) Many in the media, surprised by our strong election showing and disgusted by the other side's tactics, have joined us in asking the legislature for a reconsideration.
- (4) The Maine and Michigan Bottle Bill victories increases the pressure on the beverage industry to market returnables and prepare for our eventual victory.

The Committee has not been idle since the election. Both the office and the invaluable full time services of Norman Stein have been retained. We are computerizing our mailing list and are enlarging our organizational and community coalition.

Lois G. Pines
Chairperson
Senator James A.
Kelly - Treasurer
Secretary Evelyn
Murphy
Environmental
Affairs
Secretary Christine
Sullivan
Consumer Affairs
Congressman Gerry
Studds
Congressman Michael
Harrington
Massachusetts
Wildlife
Federation
Conservation Law
Foundation of
New England Inc.
Association of
Massachusetts
Consumers
Health Planning
Council for
Greater Boston
Massachusetts
Association of
Conservation
Commissions
Massachusetts
Audubon Society
Massachusetts
Consumers' Council
New England
Trail Rider's
Association
Friends of
the Earth
Citizens for
Participation in
Political Action
Cooperative
Metropolitan
Ministries
Junior League
of Boston
League of Women
Voters of
Massachusetts
Massachusetts
Forest and Park
Association
Massachusetts
Sierra Club
Massachusetts
Public Interest
Research Group

However the bottle bill cannot succeed without your help. Specifically we need:

- ☐ (1) A contribution toward the \$20,000 that is needed to win the bottle bill this spring. This money is a necessity in order to pay salaries, pay rent and phone bills, mailing costs and printing literature. The Committee for a Massachusetts Bottle Bill must have adequate funding in order to provide the support for people at the local level as well as maintaining a high visibility at the state house.
- ☐ (2) You to send us names and addresses of individuals and organizations who worked with you on the bottle bill or who are interested in the bottle bill.
- ☐ (3) Your help in compiling a list of stores offering returnables for our publication across the state. Joan Irish at Massachusetts Audubon (617 259-9500) has already started compiling the list of stores.
- ☐ (4) Your urging local stores to carry returnables. Tell the manager you're tired of being forced to buy throw-aways. A central theme in the opposition campaign was that consumers didn't want returnables. We must continually press retailers until they provide us with a freedom of choice.
- ☐ (5) Letters, phone calls and visits to your local representatives and senators. We cannot overstate the importance of personal contact with your legislators. We can tell you who your state representative or senator is if you don't know.
- ☐ (6) Your working with your town coordinator (if you don't know who he or she is, contact our Boston or Amherst office) to help pressure your local representative or senator; a litter clean-up is very effective. Keep writing letters to the editor to maintain awareness of the issue.

Name: _____ Phone # _____
Address: _____

PLEASE CHECK THE ABOVE BOXES, FILL IN OTHER APPROPRIATE INFORMATION UNDER BLOCKS 2 AND 3, CLIP AND RETURN IN ENCLOSED ENVELOPE. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

Thanks again for all you have already contributed. Please let us know what you can do to help win the Bottle Bill this spring.

WE CAME SO CLOSE THIS FALL. WITH YOUR HELP THE BOTTLE BILL CAN BECOME A REALITY THIS SPRING.

Have a Happy Holiday!

Thank you,

James Kelly- Senate Chairman	Ways and Means Committee
Jonathan Souweine	
Deborah Howard	Mass Audubon
Steve Morgan	Mass PIRG

City of Cambridge

6.

S-593

Comm. from the Committee for a Massachusetts
Bottle Bill re: to the 77 Committee for a
Massachusetts Bottle Bill.

In City Council,

December 27, 1976

12/27/76

Placed on File -