BOTTLE BILL FACT SHEET: MANUFACTURERS

Vermont’s Beverage Container and Redemption Law (“Bottle Bill Law”)

- Beverages under the law are “beer or other malt beverages and mineral waters, mixed wine drink, soda water and carbonated soft drinks in liquid form and intended for human consumption. As of January 1, 1990 ‘beverage’ also shall mean liquor.”

- Manufacturers and/or Distributors are required to register all brands to be sold in Vermont prior to sale in Vermont at: https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/BottleBill/. As part of the registration process, the manufacturer or distributor must identify the pick-up agent who will pick up redeemed containers from retail stores and certified redemption centers.

- Every beverage container sold in Vermont must be labeled with deposit information, as required by 10 V.S.A. Chapter 53 (https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/10/053), including a 5¢ deposit on all non-liquor beverage containers and a 15¢ deposit on all liquor containers larger than 50ml.

- Manufacturers and/or Distributors may not refuse to pick up from a retailer that sells its product or certified redemption center any correctly labeled, empty beverage container of the kind, size, and brand sold by the manufacturer or distributor, or refuse to pay the retailer or redemption center the refund value of a beverage container.

- Manufacturers and/or Distributors shall reimburse retailers/redemption centers handling fees of 3.5¢ per container for containers of beverage brands that are part of a commingling program and 4¢ per container for containers of beverage brands that are not part of a commingling program.

- Beginning October 2019, Manufacturers and/or Distributors are required to report quarterly to the VT Dept of Taxes and to remit any unclaimed deposits from the previous quarter. For information on VT Dept of Tax requirements, visit the Abandoned Beverage Container Deposits page or contact the Business Tax Section.


Other Useful Web Sites/Contacts:

- Vermont Department of Liquor Control, http://liquorcontrol.vermont.gov/
- Vermont Department of Taxes, Business Tax Section, (tax.business@vermont.gov, 802-828-2551)
- TOMRA, Beth Milligan (beth.milligan@tomra.com)
- Vermont Commingling Group, LLC, Bree Dietly (bdietly@nbenvironmental.com)
- Pepsi Brattleboro, http://pepsibrattleboro.com/
- Farrell Distributing, https://www.farrelldistributing.com/
- Vermont Retail & Grocers Association, http://www.vtrga.org/