

HOUSE No. 2875

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Gloria L. Fox and Cynthia S. Creem

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 increase recycling in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Gloria L. Fox</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Jay R. Kaufman</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 2875

By Representative Fox of Boston and Senator Creem, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2875) of Gloria L. Fox and others relative to the definition of “beverage” and the redemption of containers under the bottle law, so-called. Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to increase recycling in the Commonwealth.

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. Chapter 94 of the General Laws is hereby amended in section 321 by
2 striking lines 4 through 7, inclusive, and inserting in place thereof the following:-

3 "Beverage", soda water or similar carbonated soft drinks, noncarbonated non-alcoholic
4 beverages in liquid form intended for human consumption, mineral water, beer, and other malt
5 beverages. This definition excludes beverages that are primarily derived from dairy products,
6 infant formula, united states food and drug administration-approved medicines, wine, and
7 alcoholic beverages other than beer and malt beverages as defined in chapter one hundred and
8 thirty-eight.

9 SECTION 2. Said section 321 is hereby further amended by striking lines 24 and 25, and
10 inserting in place thereof the following:-

11 “Diversion rate”, the per cent rate of empty non-deposit containers which are separated
12 from the waste stream and are intended to be reused or recycled, as determined by the executive
13 office of environmental affairs.

14 “Label”, a molded imprint or raised symbol on or near the bottom of a plastic product.

15 “Non-deposit container”, any sealable bottle, can, jar or carton not subject to Section 322
16 which is primarily composed of glass, metal, plastic or any combination of those materials and is
17 produced for the purpose of containing any liquid intended for human consumption, excluding
18 dairy products, infant formula, united states food and drug administration-approved medicines,
19 wine and alcoholic beverages other than beer and malt beverages as defined in chapter one
20 hundred and thirty-eight.;

21 and is hereby further amended in line 31, by inserting at the end thereof the following:-

22 “Redemption rate”, the per cent rate of beverage containers that are redeemed for their
23 deposits, as determined by the executive office of environmental affairs.

24 SECTION 3. Chapter 94 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
25 section 326 the following new section:-

26 Section 326A. (a) The secretary shall establish, not later than the first day of January,
27 2019, a process for determining the diversion rate and the redemption rate. The secretary may
28 establish any guidelines or regulations necessary or expedient to determine these rates.

29 (b) Not later than the final day of December, 2019, the secretary of environmental affairs
30 shall determine the diversion rate and the redemption rate for calendar year 2018. In each

31 subsequent year, the secretary shall determine the diversion rate and redemption rate for the
32 foregoing year.

33 (c) If, by December 31, 2023, the mean diversion rate for any two year period is found by
34 the secretary to be equal to or greater than the mean redemption rate in the corresponding two
35 year period, then this section shall be repealed.

36 SECTION 4. Section 1 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2024; provided, however,
37 that if the secretary has determined the redemption rate and diversion rate to have equalized
38 under subsection (c) of section 326A of chapter 94, then Section 1 will not go into effect.

39 SECTION 5. The remainder of this act shall take effect on December 31, 2017.