



# The Association of Postconsumer Plastic Recyclers

## APR POSITION STATEMENT LEGISLATIVE ISSUE:

### Expansion of current deposit laws to include non-carbonated bottles

**APR POSITION:** The Association of Postconsumer Plastic Recyclers (APR) and its members collectively represent more than 90% of the postconsumer plastics recycling capacity in North America. APR members have a direct interest in the enhancement of postconsumer plastics recycling.

**The APR supports the expansion of existing deposit collection programs** to include non-carbonated bottles such as used water and juice containers made of PET and HDPE resin; when such expansion is proposed by State Legislative bodies in states that currently have deposit laws.

**Value:** Expansion of current bottle bills would significantly increase the supply of high quality postconsumer plastic waste for recyclers and end users.

**Current Legislative Activity:** Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts and several additional states are considering such proposals.

#### Key Messages:

- Recycling all Non-Carbonated Bottles will increase recycling rates for municipalities and generate the volume, consistency and quality of supply required by the plastics recycling industry.
- Expansion of bottles bills should include all plastic bottles.
- The growth of new plastic bottle categories necessitates that all containers be covered by the deposit law in order to promote equity in the marketplace.
- The effect on curbside collection program volume and revenues would be negative and should be considered when crafting the legislation
- The APR encourages plastic bottle manufacturers to consult the *APR Design*<sup>TM</sup> Guide for Plastics Recyclability prior to initial market distribution.

#### Challenges:

- There is a strong lobby against deposits in any form.
- Limited grass roots support from the public and environmental groups.
- Limited individual Industry support.

#### Key Actions:

- **APR Communications:** publish this position on the website, offer to outside publications.
- **APR Promotion:** present position at conferences and other venues as appropriate.
- **APR Government Relations:** As legislatures propose expansion of Bottle Bills APR will: write letters of support, provide testimony, provide press releases, submit comments for the public record and generate letters from member companies as appropriate.