

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 30

H.P. 32

House of Representatives, January 3, 2007

Resolve, To Decrease Landfill Costs and Protect the Environment through a Beverage Container Reuse Program

Reference to the Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development suggested
and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAIRCLOTH of Bangor.

1 **Sec. 1. Beverage container reuse program. Resolved:** That the Executive
2 Department, State Planning Office, in consultation with the Department of Agriculture,
3 Food and Rural Resources, the Department of Environmental Protection and the
4 Department of Health and Human Services, shall study the economics of a beverage
5 container reuse program in the State. In conducting the study, the State Planning Office
6 shall consider the following issues:

- 7 1. Requirements for bottle standards, such as similar size, shape and color, so that
8 bottles are interchangeable;
- 9 2. Redemption center procedures;
- 10 3. Responsibility for collection of the empty bottles from redemption centers;
- 11 4. Required bottle-washing machinery;
- 12 5. Bottle integrity, including bottle strength and durability;
- 13 6. Handling fees;
- 14 7. Transport distances in the State;
- 15 8. Out-of-state production of beverages;
- 16 9. The number of redemption facilities available in the State; and
- 17 10. Associated energy costs; and be it further

18 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Executive Department, State Planning Office
19 shall submit a report on the issues identified in section 1, including recommendations and
20 suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources by January
21 5, 2008. Following receipt and review of the report, the Joint Standing Committee on
22 Natural Resources may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd
23 Legislature.

24 SUMMARY

25 This resolve directs the Executive Department, State Planning Office, in consultation
26 with the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the Department of
27 Environmental Protection and the Department of Health and Human Services, to study
28 the economics of a beverage container reuse program in Maine.