

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 2/12/24

(Filing No. H-745)

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1358, L.D. 2134, "An Act Regarding Responsibility for Activities Intended to Increase the Use of Refillable and Reusable Beverage Containers"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §3107, sub-§3-B, ¶F-1 is enacted to read:

F-1. After consultation with the department and interested persons, the cooperative shall contract with a 3rd-party entity to complete a study by July 15, 2026 to determine the feasibility of achieving goals of 5% refillable and reusable beverage containers sold in the State by 2030, by 2040 and by 2050 and 10% refillable and reusable beverage containers sold in the State by 2030, by 2040 and by 2050 and to determine the infrastructure and investments that would be necessary to support those goals and shall provide the results of the study, along with any related recommendations, to the department. After reviewing the results of the study and any recommendations of the cooperative, the department shall include the results of the study, along with any additional comments or recommendations from the department, in the report required by section 3115, subsection 3 that is due by February 15, 2027.'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §3108-A, sub-§2, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 482, §28 and affected by §43, is amended by enacting a new subparagraph (4-A) to read:

(4-A) Funding of activities and infrastructure designed to increase the use of refillable and reusable beverage containers and reusable beverage packaging in the State. The cooperative may expend funds under this subparagraph to support activities and infrastructure designed to increase the use of other types of reusable packaging in the State. The cooperative shall make available a minimum of \$500,000 per calendar year for these activities, which may include, but are not limited to:

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(a) Activities and infrastructure relating to the development and implementation of models for refillable beverage container washing techniques, including, but not limited to, mobile washing stations, in-house washing stations and the establishment of a fixed washing facility in the State;

(b) Development of or other activities relating to container, adhesive and label options for refillable beverage containers; and

(c) Outreach to manufacturers, retailers, restaurants and consumers regarding the benefits of refillable beverage containers and the methods available for ensuring such containers may be safely reused; and'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment amends the bill to clarify that the commingling cooperative must make available a minimum of \$500,000 per year to fund activities and infrastructure relating to increasing the use of refillable and reusable beverage containers and reusable beverage packaging in the State. It also requires the commingling cooperative to consult with the Department of Environmental Protection and interested persons and contract with a 3rd-party entity to complete the study required in the bill regarding the feasibility of achieving certain goals for the sale of reusable and refillable beverage containers.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2134

LR 2839(02)

An Act Regarding Responsibility for Activities Intended to Increase the Use of Refillable and Reusable Beverage Containers

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-745)
Committee: Environment and Natural Resources
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Projections FY 2025-26	Projections FY 2026-27
Appropriations/Allocations				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)
Revenue				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill reduces the amount of unclaimed deposit revenue the commingling cooperative is required to provide to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for deposit into the department's Cost and Carbon Efficient Technology Fund (CCET Fund) from \$1,000,000 to \$500,000 starting in fiscal year 2025-26. At that time the allocations to the DEP will be reduced by \$500,000 to reflect the lower amount available for bottle technology grants to increase the use of refillable and reusable beverage containers in the State.