

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

March 7, 1997 Hearing Room E

1:00 P.M. Tape 33

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Rep. Leslie Lewis, Chair

Rep. Frank Shields, Vice-Chair

Rep. Michael Fahey

Rep. Mike Lehman

Rep. Dennis Luke

Rep. Mark Simmons

Rep. Jim Welsh

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Judith Gruber, Policy Analyst

Marjorie Taylor, Administrative Support

**MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:**

Informational Meeting on Recycling Concepts

( Oregon Beer and Wine Distributors Association

( Bottles and Cans for the Homeless

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

Tape/#	Speaker	Comments
TAPE 33, A		
004	Chair Lewis	Calls the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. and indicates that the meeting will focus on recycling concepts.
<u>INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON RECYCLING</u>		

<b>CONCEPTS</b>		
007	Judith Gruber	Policy Analyst, speaks of a packet of information about recycling <b>(EXHIBIT A)</b> .
022	Paul Romain	Representative, Oregon Beer and Wine Distributors Association. States that the committee members visited a beer and wine distributor last week and heard information about the recycling process. The bottle bill works because of it's simplicity. Grocers and distributors are mandated to take back what they sell. Explains how a nickel moves through the system. States that it is risky to change the current bottle recycling system because the outcome is unknown. Suggests that all positions need to be mandated if the system is changed. Speaks of redemption schemes in competitive areas.
079	Romain	Comments on the Container Recovery Inc. video from 3-5-97 and relates how the price per pound of aluminum affects the cross-border traffic of containers. Suggests that the goal of increased recycling will be accomplished with increased curbside service.
102	Luke	Asks if there is a way to eliminate the requirement to return containers to a specific manufacturer.
110	Romain	That was done in Portland to create Container Recovery Inc. (CRInc.). At a later date, the cost of creating a CRInc. type system in smaller communities will be cost effective.
131	Luke	Indicates that recyclers at a landfill can't afford to separate containers by distributors and asks if the requirement still needs to be in place.
140	Romain	States that when a container leaves a distributor, it leaves in a form where it can't be re-redeemed. Containers from a landfill are traditionally taken to a grocer to be redeemed.
156	Shields	Asks what the rationale is for not supporting a bill which will recycle items that are already being recycled.
165	Romain	The bottle bill works on a closed distribution system and sometimes identical containers are not distributed identically. Also, the more economical way of getting glass into the recycling system is to go through curbside programs.
210	Bob Robison	Representative, Portland City Commissioner, Gretchen Kafoury. Explains a recycling program that allows people to donate containers whose redemption value will be given to the homeless. Explains that the nickel value is not important to many people and a redemption center concept would make it easier to collect the containers for the homeless. Shows a poster similar to those hanging in grocery stores that lets people know of the opportunity to donate cans <b>(EXHIBIT B)</b> .
275	Luke	Asks if the program allows for container pick up from individuals.
		There has been some pick up, but the goal is not to replace the

278	Robison	existing collection system.
281	Luke	Explains that a similar program works well in the Bend area.
286	Robison	States that the CRInc. machines originally had a button on them to donate the funds automatically, but there were problems. Provides T-shirts to the committee that promote the recycling program.
317	Gruber	Asks what happens to the glass products.
323	Robison	Nature's is helping to sort through the glass products.
348	Lewis	Adjourns the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Marjorie Taylor, Judith Gruber,

Administrative Support Policy Analyst

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

**A - Recycling concept, Written materials, Committee Staff, 53 pp.**

**B - Recycling concept, Written testimony, Bob Robison, 1 p.**