



City of Berkeley ZERO WASTE COMMISSION Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 15 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
City of Berkeley Corporation Yard (Ratcliff Building, Willow Room)
1326 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA, 94702

MEETING AGENDA

PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

- 5:30 pm 1. Call to Order by Chair and Roll Call by Secretary
- **Steven Sherman**, appointed by CM Rashi Kesarwani, District 1
 - **Christienne de Tournay (Chair)**, appointed by CM Shoshana O'Keefe, District 5
 - **VACANT**, appointed by Mayor Adena Ishii
 - **Layla Dargahi (Vice Chair)**, appointed by CM Terry Taplin, District 2
 - **Dennis Uyat**, appointed by CM Ben Bartlett, District 3
 - **Philip Monrad**, appointed by CM Igor Tregub, District 4
 - **Sandra Curtis**, appointed by CM Brent Blackaby, District 6
 - **Swasti Johri**, appointed by CM Cecilia Lunaparra, District 7
 - **Barun Singh**, appointed by CM Mark Humbert, District 8
- 5:35 pm 2. Approve Meeting Agenda and Order of Agenda Items
- 5:40 pm 3. Approve Draft Action Minutes:
- April 17, 2025 Regular Meeting*
- 5:45 pm 4. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda
Speakers are allotted up to two minutes. Speakers may be allotted less time at the discretion of the Chair.
- 5:55 pm 5. Commissioner Announcements
Commissioners may make general announcements; no action will be taken.
- 6:00 pm 6. Staff Updates

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

Members of the public may provide comments at the end of each discussion item and prior to the vote of the Commission on any action items. Speakers are allotted up to 2 minutes.

- 6:15 pm 1. Presentation by Californians Against Waste (CAW), Legislative Associate Krystal Raynes
- 6:45 pm 2. Presentation on Plastics by Commissioner Curtis

- 7:00 pm 3. Complete 2026 Work Plan
- 7:15 4. Report outs from the Special Events Subcommittee and Green Building Subcommittee
- 7:25 pm 5. Discuss Future Agenda Items
- 7:30 pm 6. Adjournment

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Information items may be moved to discussion but no action will be taken

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications from the public are included as links or attachments in the agenda packet.

PowerPoint from Susan Collins, Container Recycling Institute presentation at the April 2025 meeting

***Indicates material included in the agenda packet**

**** Indicates material to be available at the meeting**



ADA Disclaimer: This meeting is being held in a wheelchair-accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services Specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

SB 343 Disclaimer:

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Public Works Department located at the address below.

Communications Disclaimer:

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission or committee for further information.

Commission Secretary:

Julia A. Heath, Recycling Program Manager,
Zero Waste Division, 1201 Second St. Berkeley, CA 94710
510-981-6357

jheath@berkeleyca.gov

Berkeley Zero Waste Commission Meeting

Presented by Susan Collins, President of the Container Recycling Institute

April 17, 2024



What CRI Provides



Research

- 1) Beverage Market Data Analysis
- 2) Environmental and economic impact studies
- 3) Information databases



Education

- 1) Bottle Bill Resource Guide
- 2) Networking and Working Groups
- 3) Consultation and technical assistance



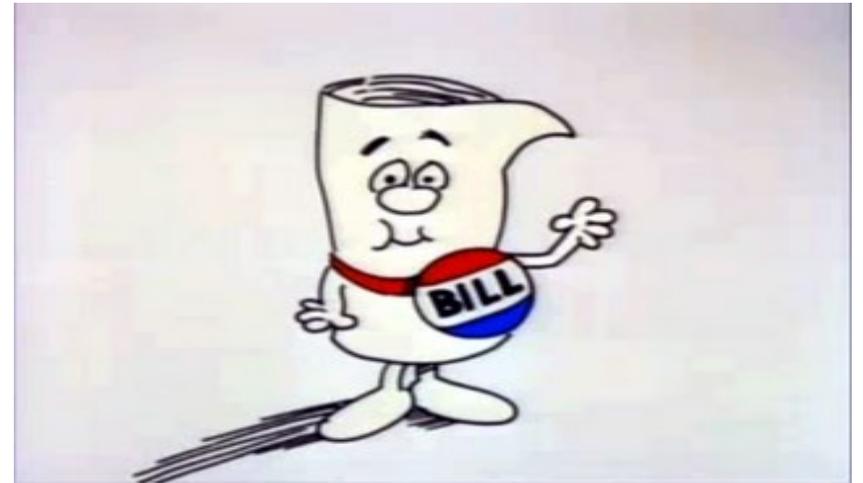
Advocacy

- 1) Testimony
- 2) Legislative Analyses
- 3) Stakeholder Collaboration

What is a Deposit Return System?

(container deposit-refund, bottle bill, or container deposit law/CDL)

- Requires distributors and retailers to collect a minimum **refundable deposit**, usually 5-10 cents on certain beverage containers
- Creates a collection infrastructure for beverage containers
- Makes producers and consumers **responsible** for their packaging waste

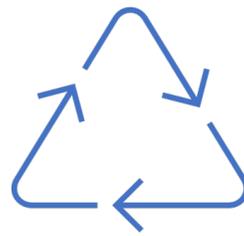


Impact of Single-Use Beverage Containers

- Out of the **298 billion beverage containers** sold in 2021, **197 billion were wasted** – that's **66%** of all containers sold (U.S.)
- **\$3.8 billion** in valuable material commodities are disposed every year
- This equates to **594 beverage containers per person per year** in the United States

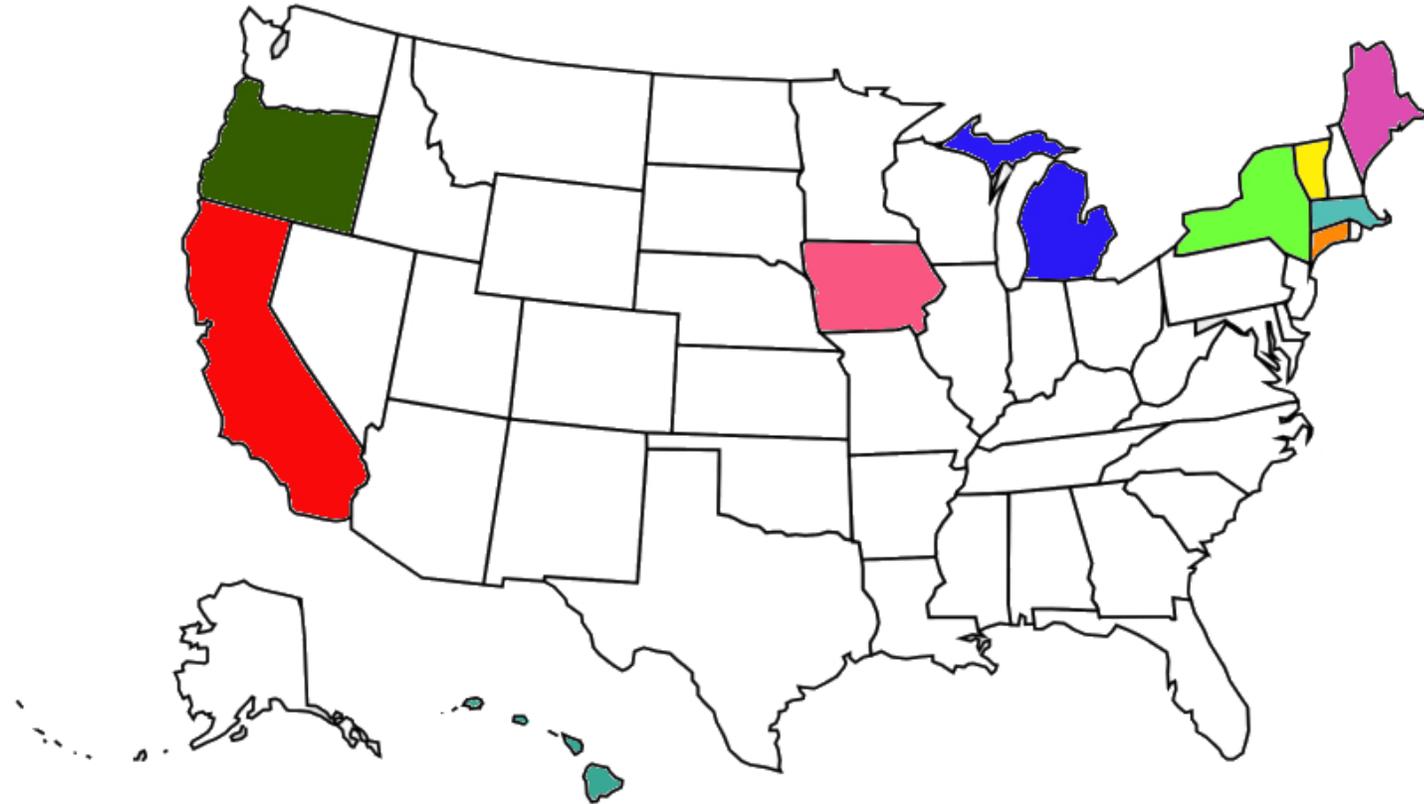
Benefits of deposit systems:

- **High recycling rates:** 50-90% for beverage containers in the U.S.
- Produce **clean** recycled materials for manufacturing
- Create **jobs** and **new businesses**
- Shift end of life costs for used beverage containers to **producers (EPR)**
- Reduce **litter**
- Conserve **energy** and natural resources
- Reduce **greenhouse gas emissions**
- **Prevent pollution** from manufacturing new containers from virgin materials

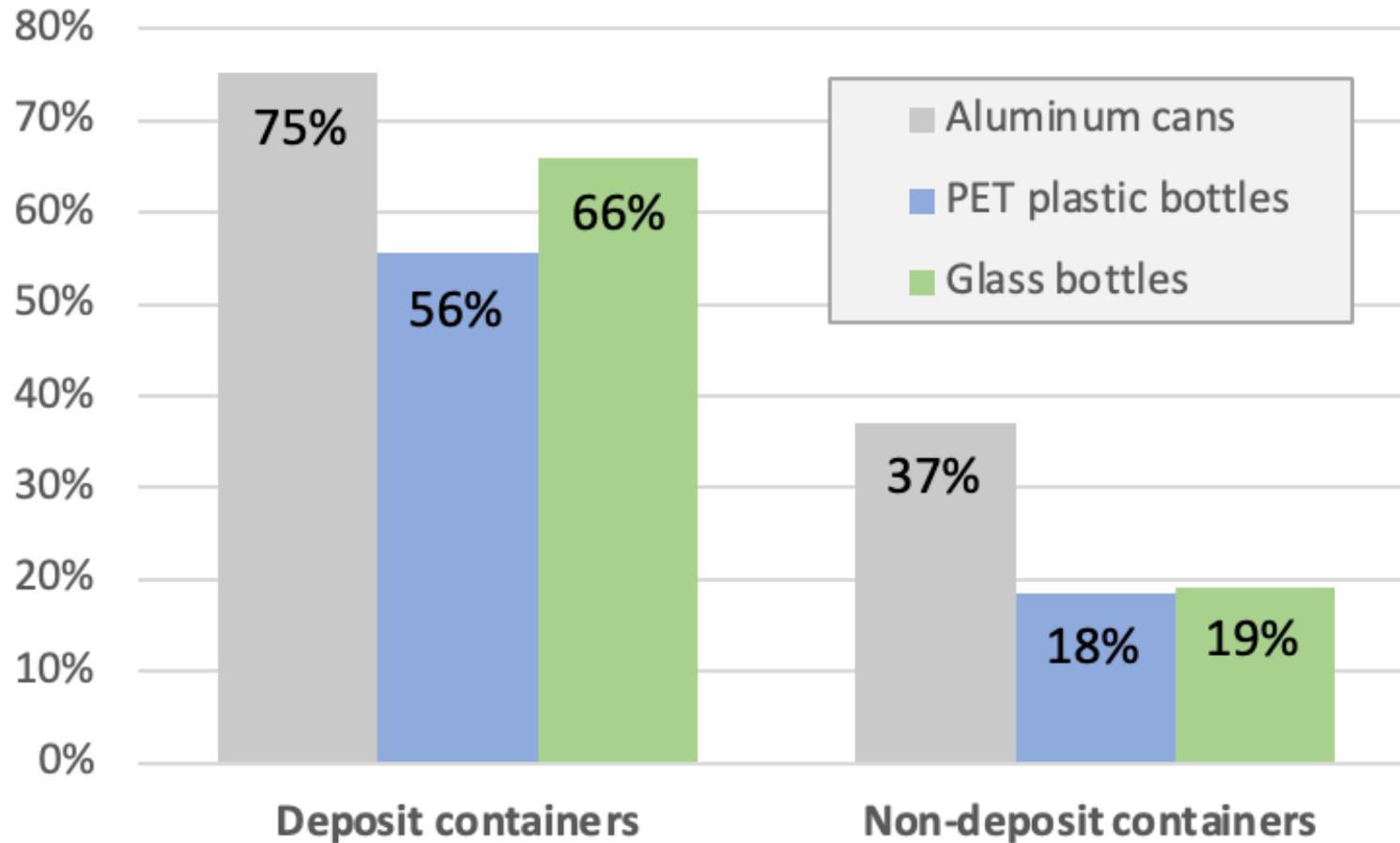


U.S. States with Container Deposit Laws

- Oregon
- Vermont
- Michigan
- Maine
- Iowa
- Connecticut
- Massachusetts
- New York
- California
- Hawaii



U.S. Nominal Recycling Rates by Deposit Status, 2021



Source: "2021 Beverage Market Data Analysis."

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In 2025, New & Expanded DRS Legislation Proposed in 13 States & Territories:

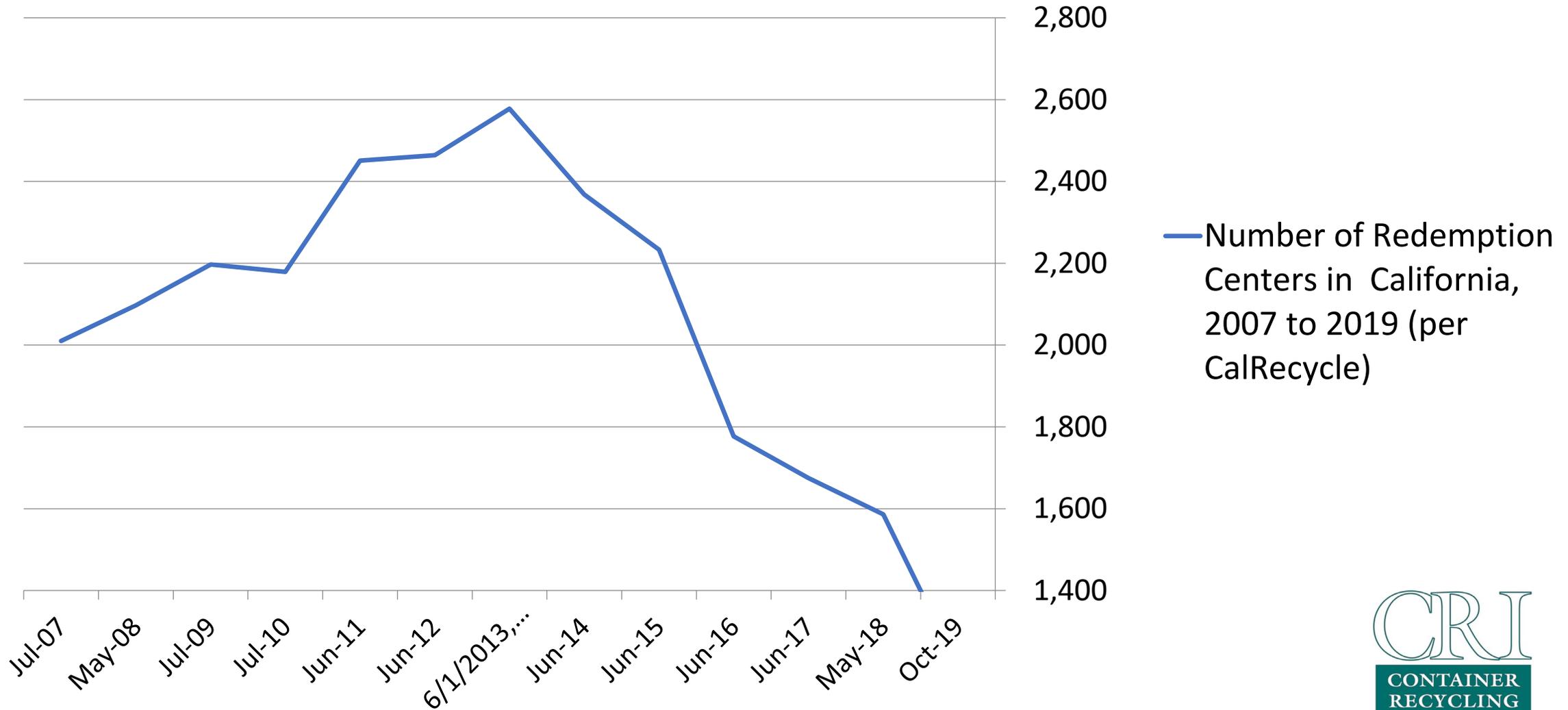
NEW

- Maryland
- Washington
- Texas
- Washington, D.C.
- Illinois
- Rhode Island
- West Virginia

EXPANDED/ MODERNIZED

- New York
- Massachusetts (in bond bill)
- Oregon
- Vermont
- Connecticut
- Hawaii

California Loses 52% of Redemption Centers from 2013 to 2020; 1,336 Fewer Centers than in 2013



What does SB 1013 establish?

- DRS Expansion: Wine & Spirits
 - New containers also added to existing Post-Consumer Recycled Content (PCR) Requirements
- Enlargement of Convenience Zones
- Dealer Cooperatives
- Grant Programs
 - Recycled Glass Processing Incentive Grant Program
 - Increased Recycling of Empty Glass Beverage Containers Grant Program
 - Empty Glass Beverage Transportation Grant Program
 - Community Conservation Corps
- Increased funding for glass quality incentive payments
- Extension of Market Development Payments to Plastic Reclaimers (PMDP)
- Market Development Payments to Glass Beverage Container Manufacturers
- Pilot Projects

Oregon



RVMs (Kaufland, Germany)



New Rules for Dealers, as of Jan. 1, 2025

If a convenience zone has no recycling service, or its 60-day hold period has expired, and until a recycling service is established, they must:

Take containers back in-store or at a designated site location, and deliver to a recycling service (ineligible for program payments)

Join a dealer cooperative and pay into cooperative

Note: Option B payments are no longer an option.

Expenditures from AB 179, SB 1013 & SB 353

Increased Recycling of Empty Glass Beverage Containers Grant Program

\$4 million
Annual

Recycled Glass Processing Incentive Grant Program

\$4 million
Annual

Beverage Container Redemption Innovation Grant (RIG) Program

More on following slide

Beverage Container Quality Infrastructure Grant (QIG) Program

\$47.5 million
Annual

Reusable Beverage Containers Infrastructure Grant Program

\$25 million for FY 2022-2023
Annual

Glass Market Development Payment Program

\$60 million
Annual until 2027

Empty Glass Beverage Transportation Grant Program

\$1 million
Annual

Other Expenditures from AB 179, SB 1013 & SB 353

Startup Loans for Processors and Recyclers
\$30 million
One-time

Workforce Development
\$5 million
One-time
Already awarded

Conservation Corps
\$10 million
One-time
Already awarded

Glass Quality Incentive Payments (QIP)
Increased by \$5 million/yr.
Annual
Ongoing

Glass Transportation, Operations, and Log Payment
\$3.2 million/yr.
Annual

CalRecycle Administration
Increase of \$25 mil/year from 22/23 to 23/24
Annual, ongoing

Update Public Website and new Grant Management Software
\$14 million
One-time

Loans to other government programs
\$71 million for 23/24 and 24/25, combined
One-time

CalRecycle Redemption Innovation Grant Update



Cycle	Eligible Projects	FY Fund Source	Allocation	Application Due
RIG 1	Bag drop, mobile, RVM	FY 22-23	\$73,333,000 (\$42 mil actually used)	Past
RIG 2 – Dealers	RVM	FY 23-24	\$21,000,000	June 2025
RIG 3 – Recycling Centers	Bag drop, mobile, RVM, re-establishment of recycling centers due to wildfires	FYs 22-23, 23-24	\$51,342,381	July 2025
RIG 4 – Qualifying Tribal Entities	Bag drop, mobile, RVM, re-establishment of recycling centers due to wildfires	FY 23-24	\$15,000,000	July 2025
RIG 5 – Dealer Cooperatives	Bag drop, mobile, RVM	FYs 23-24, 24-25	\$40,000,000	Ongoing from August 2025 - December 2026

Total Funds Allocated for RIG2 – RIG5 : **\$127,342,381**

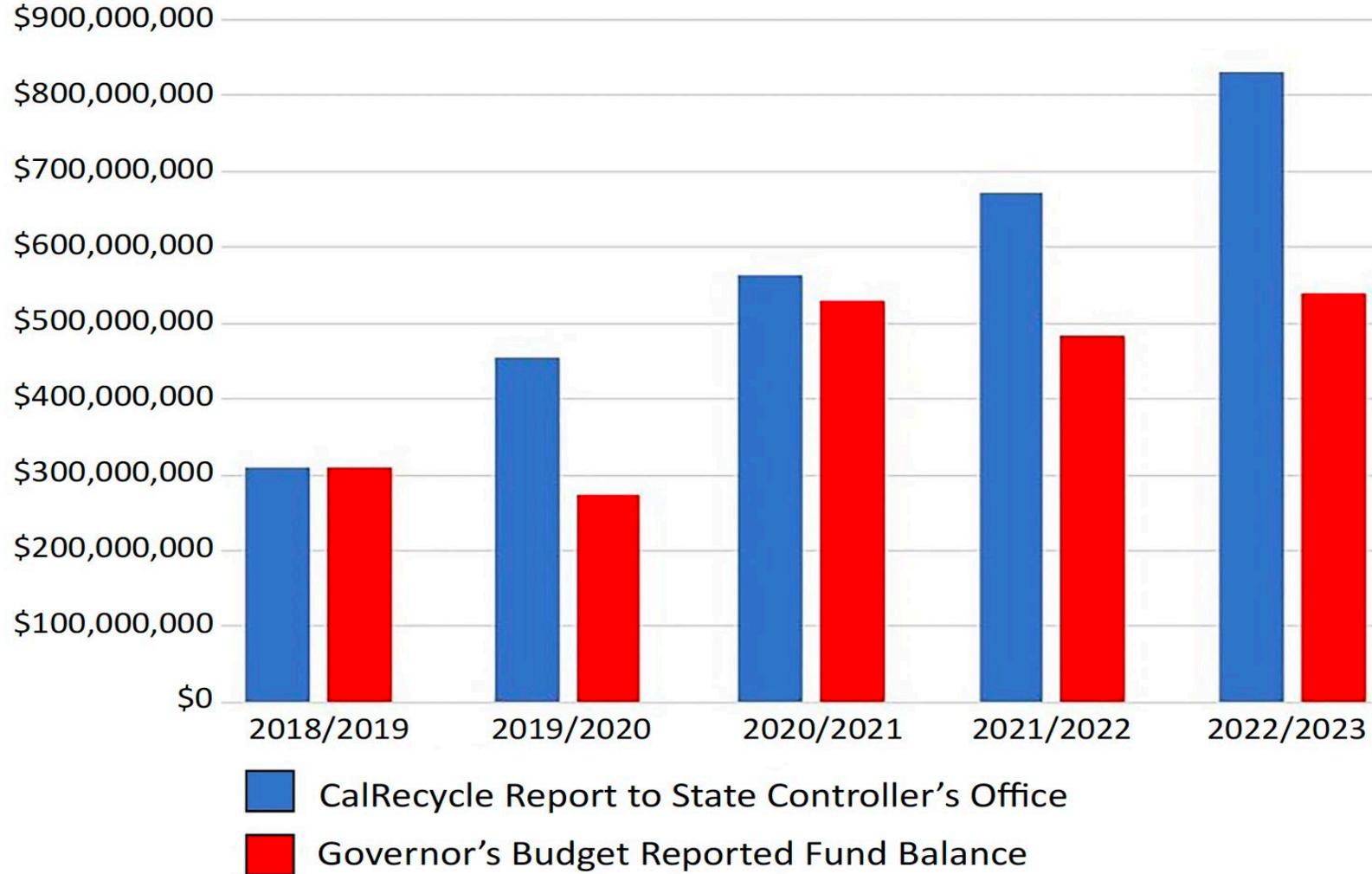
Current Pending Legislation

Bill	Key Points	Status
SB 633	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires manufacturers to report the amount of imported postconsumer recycled (PCR) plastic used for beverage containers by country of origin• Also requires manufacturers to provide proof that the PCR content they use has been validated by a third party	Hearing in Senate Appr. Committee 4/21/25
SB 674	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduces redemption payment for wine/spirits in bladders, pouches, or boxes from 25 cents to 10 cents• Similar bill introduced last year and vetoed by Governor	Hearing in Senate Environmental Quality Committee on 4/23/25

Current Pending Legislation

Bill	Key Points	Status
SB 675	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Specifies that 10% is a reasonable financial return for recycling centers concerning processing paymentsThis is a codifying a law that has been the subject of emergency regulations for years	Hearing in Senate Environmental Quality Committee on 4/23/25
SB 45	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Requires beverage containers intended for sale to have a tethered cap beginning Jan 1, 2027	Had Hearing in Senate Appr. Committee on 4/7/25 - placed on suspense file

Reported Balance in Beverage Container Recycling Fund by Source

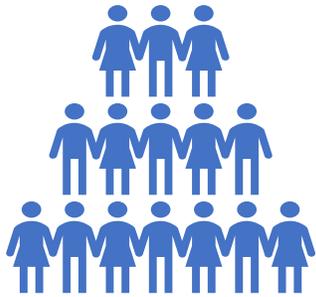


Container Recycling Institute © 2024

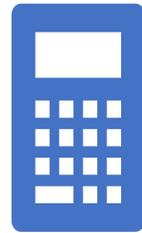
After 4 years of significantly understating the true fund balance, the June Governor's Budget did correctly show the BCRF fund balance.

CalRecycle released their Semi-Annual Financial Status Report on July 18, 2024.

What We're Watching...



Are all convenience zones served?



Is financial reporting accurate?



Will the fund be out of money soon?



Are grant funds being used effectively?

Q&A



Thank You!

Learn

Main Website www.container-recycling.org

Bottle Bill Website www.bottlebill.org

Connect

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LinkedIn www.linkedin.com/company/container-recycling-institute

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