

# Bottle Bills:

Small Change for More Recycling

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# Outline

- Beverage Container Timeline
- Recycling Problems
- CDLs – Container Deposit Laws
- Bottle Bill Benefits
- Issues

# Timeline

- 1894 – Refillable glass bottles
- 1940s – One-way, non-returnable glass bottles
- 1959 – Aluminum cans
- 1971 – Oregon passes the first bottle bill
- Today – Refillable bottles < 2% of beverage containers. 11 states with CDLs.

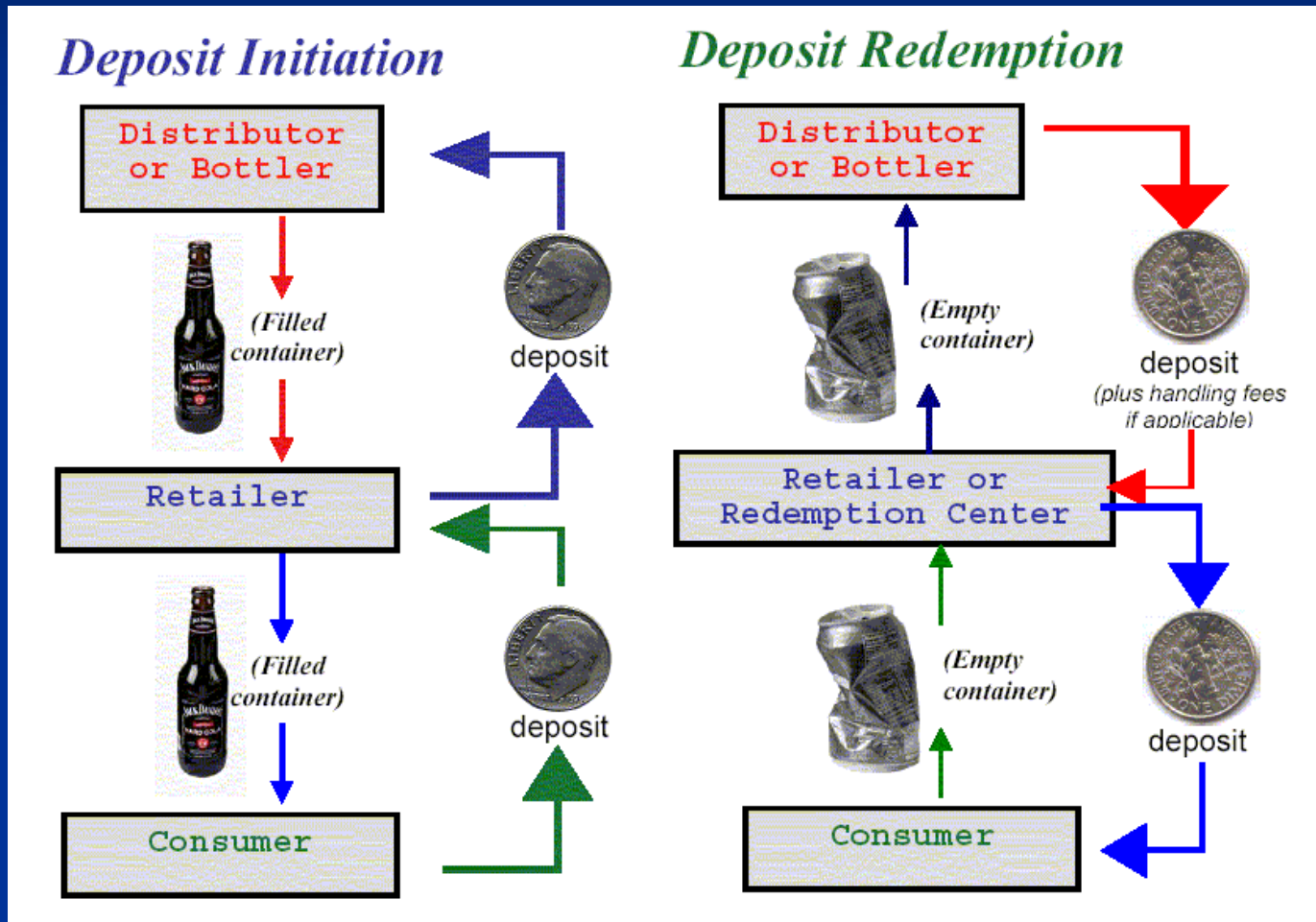
Sources: Bakshi, N. (2006). *Waste and Opportunity: U.S. Beverage Container Recycling Scorecard and Report*.

Container Recycling Institute. (2007). *What is a Bottle Bill?*  
[http://bottlebill.org/about\\_bb/whatis.htm](http://bottlebill.org/about_bb/whatis.htm)

# Recycling Problems

- Beverage sales have increased five-fold in the past 30 years
- Recycling programs cannot keep up
- 2/3 of beverage containers are landfilled, incinerated, or littered
- Beverage containers are easily recyclable!

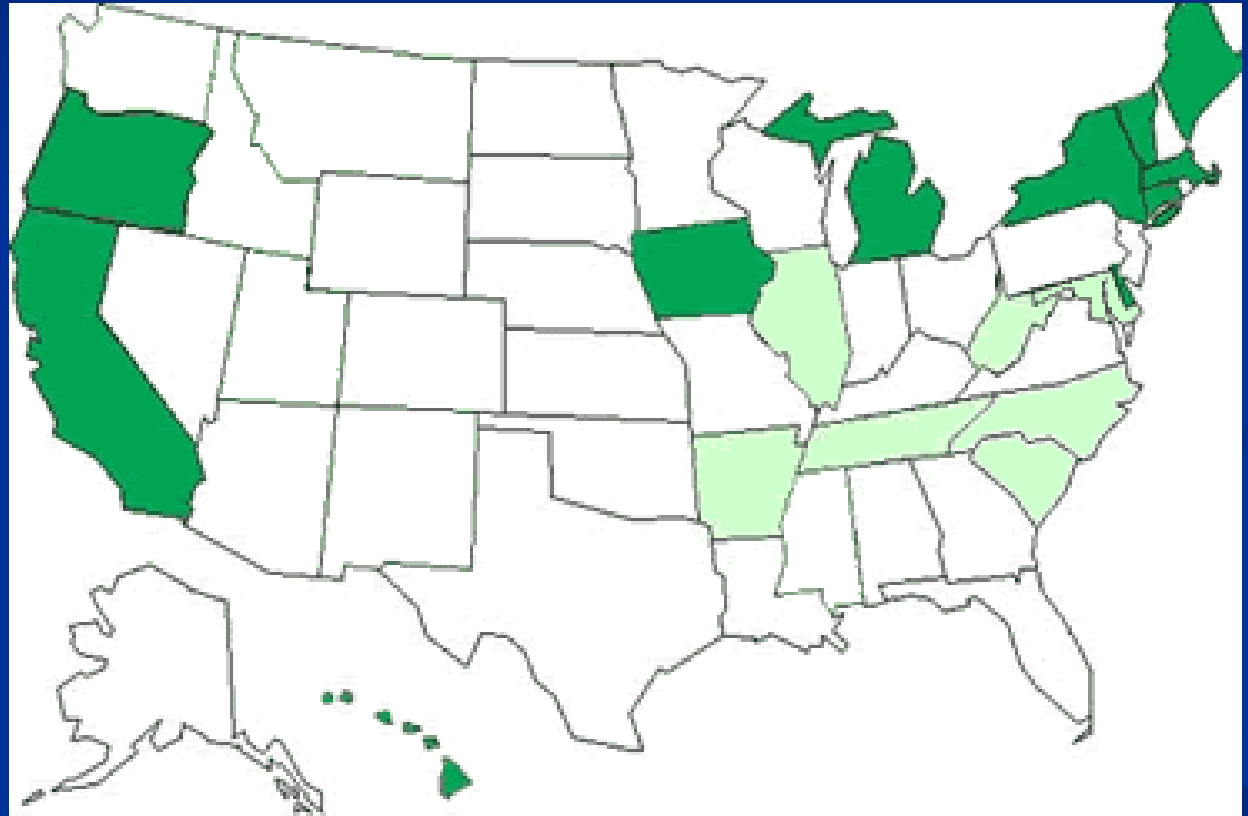
# The Deposit System



Source: Container Recycling Institute. (2007). *What is a Bottle Bill?*  
[http://bottlebill.org/about\\_bb/whatis.htm](http://bottlebill.org/about_bb/whatis.htm)

# States with CDLs

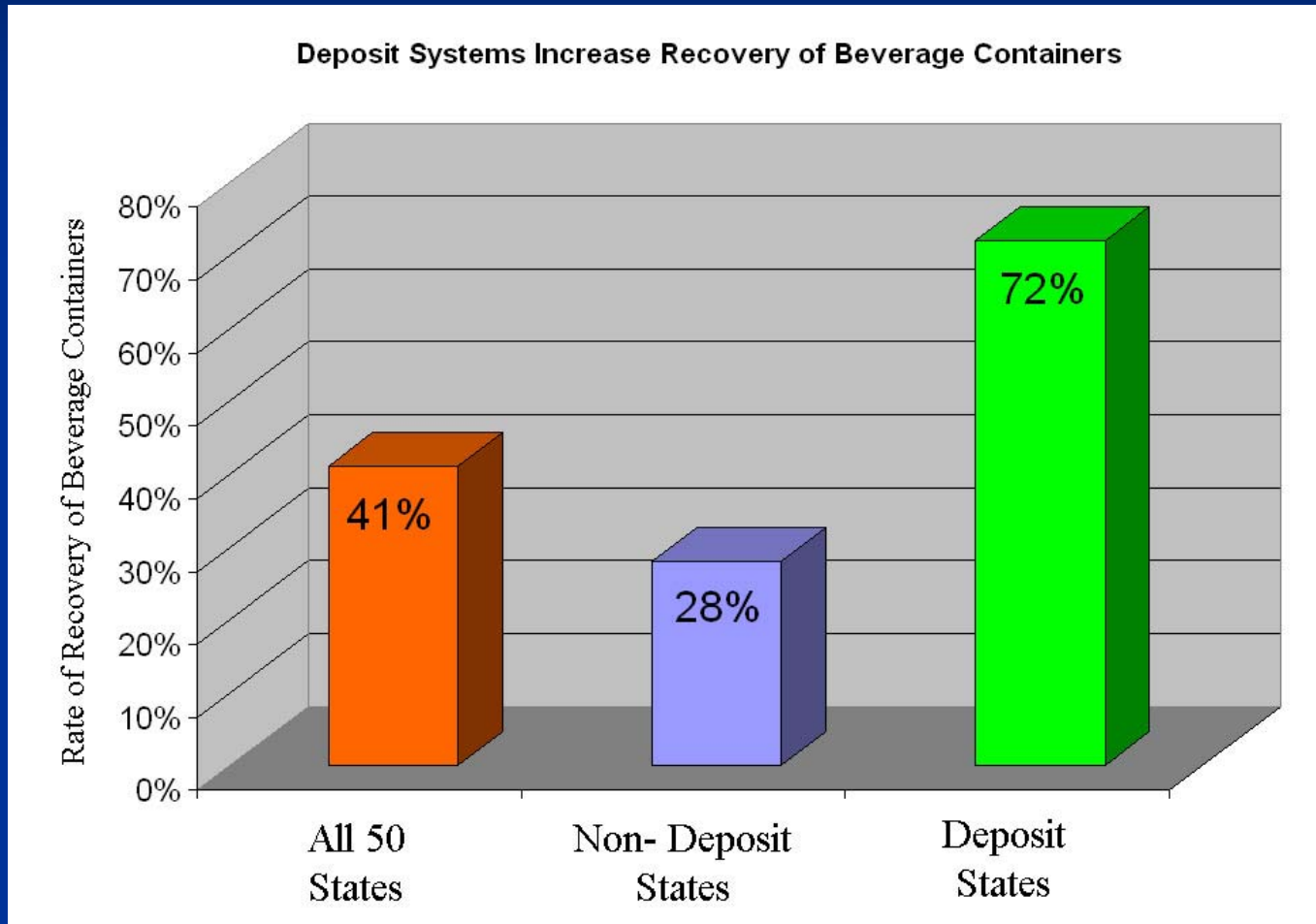
- Oregon
- Vermont
- Michigan
- Maine
- Iowa
- Connecticut
- Massachusetts
- Delaware
- New York
- California
- Hawaii



Source: Franklin, P. (2004). Beverage Container Recycling in the United States.

*Hong Kong Waste Management Association Symposium on Producer Responsibility.*

# Bottle Bill Benefits



Source: Franklin, P. (2004). Beverage Container Recycling in the United States.  
*Hong Kong Waste Management Association Symposium on Producer Responsibility.*

# Bottle Bill Benefits

State	Beverage Container Litter Reduction	Total Litter Reduction
New York	70-80%	30%
Oregon	83%	47%
Vermont	76%	35%
Maine	69-77%	34-64%
Michigan	84%	41%
Iowa	76%	39%

Source: Franklin, P. (2007). Have Container Deposit Laws Been Effective?  
*Take It Back!* 2007.

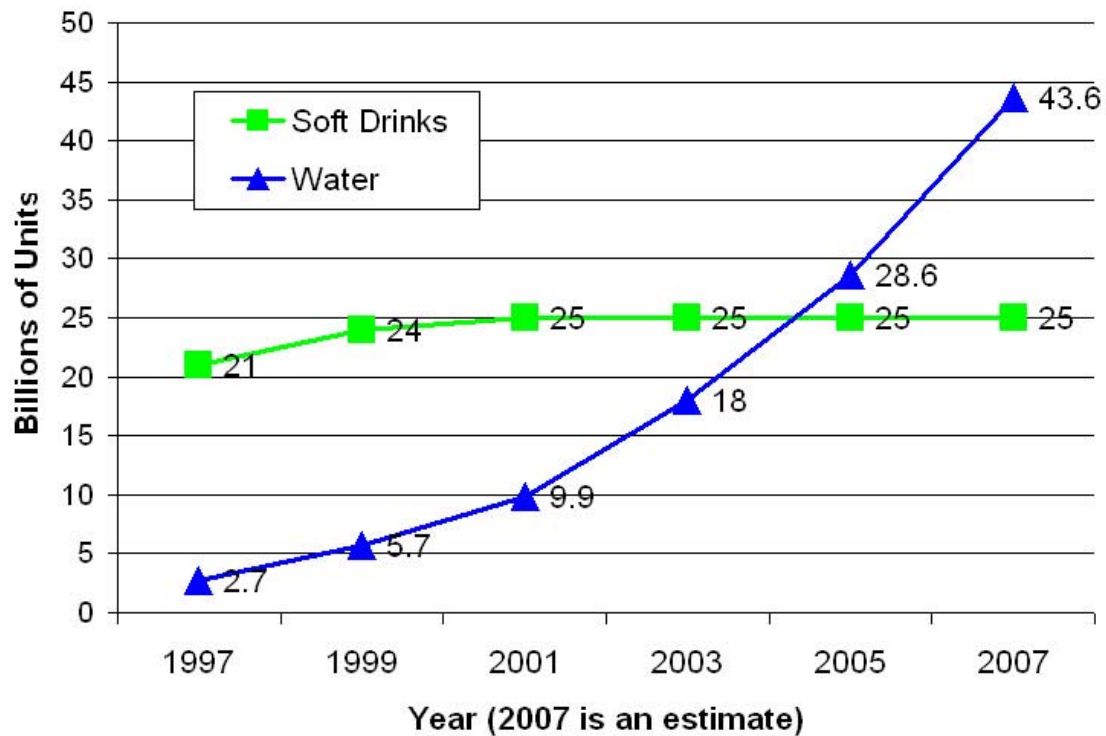
# Issues



Source: Guitz, J. (2001, September 8). *Oregon's Bottle Bill at 30: How is it Doing?*  
<http://www.container-recycling.org/papers/OregonBB30.pdf>

# Future?

Growth of Plastic Water Bottles and Plastic Soft Drink Bottles  
(under 1 gallon)



Source: Franklin, P. (2007). Have Container Deposit Laws Been Effective?  
*Take It Back!* 2007.

# Why don't all states have CDLs?

State	Year	Opponent Spending	Proponent spending	Result
Oregon	1996	\$3.2 million	\$400,000	Defeated
DC	1987	\$2.2 million	\$80,000	Defeated
Colorado	1982	\$0.5 million	\$25,000	Defeated
Ohio	1979	\$1.2 million	\$117,000	Defeated
Washington	1979	\$1.5 million	\$88,885	Defeated

Source: Container Recycling Institute. (2003). Bottle Bills: Past Present Future.