APR POSITION STATEMENT
5/30/06

LEGISLATIVE ISSUE:
Expansion of current deposit laws to include non-carbonated bottles

APR POSITION: The Association of Postconsumer Plastic Recyclers (APR) and its members collectively represent more than 90% of the post-consumer plastics recycling capacity in North America. APR members have a direct interest in the enhancement of post-consumer plastics recycling.

The APR supports the expansion of existing deposit collection programs to include non-carbonated bottles such as used water and juice containers made of PET and HDPE resin; when such expansion is proposed by State Legislative bodies in states that currently have deposit laws.

Value: Expansion of current bottle bills would significantly increase the supply of high quality post-consumer plastic waste for recyclers and end users.

Current Legislative Activity: Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts and several additional states are considering such proposals.

Key Messages:
- Recycling all Non-Carbonated Bottles will increase recycling rates for municipalities and generate the volume, consistency and quality of supply required by the plastics recycling industry.
- Expansion of bottles bills should include all plastic bottles.
- The growth of new plastic bottle categories necessitates that all containers be covered by the deposit law in order to promote equity in the marketplace.
- The effect on curbside collection program volume and revenues would be negative and should be considered when crafting the legislation.
- The APR encourages plastic bottle manufacturers to consult the APR’s Design For Recycling guidelines prior to initial market distribution.

Challenges:
- There is a strong lobby against deposits in any form.
- Limited grass roots support from the public and environmental groups.
- Limited individual Industry support.

Key Actions:
- APR Communications: publish this position on the website, offer to outside publications.
- APR Promotion: present position at conferences and other venues as appropriate.
- APR Government Relations: As legislatures propose expansion of Bottle Bills APR will: write letters of support, provide testimony, provide press releases, submit comments for the public record and generate letters from member companies as appropriate.
Note from the Container Recycling Institute:
This document was downloaded from the APR website
at http://plasticsrecycling.org/about_us/
position_statements.asp