

Good day,

I am writing to urge you to support LD 2141, "An Act to Direct a Portion of Unclaimed Beverage Container Deposits to the Lake Water Quality Restoration and Protection Fund, the Maine Working Farmland Access and Protection Program and Public Defender Office Staffing."

According to the beverage industry, about \$16 million of the deposits we Mainers pay when we purchase beverages in our state goes unclaimed annually. Rather than have that money go to the beverage industry, LD 2141 would allocate some of the funds toward protecting Maine's lakes and working farms to support regional public defender office staffing.

While I return virtually all the beverage containers I buy and donate the money I receive from returning those containers to charity, passage of LD 2141 would channel some of the unclaimed money to some very good programs that make the lives of all Mainers (and our visitors) a little better.

Sincerely,

Richard Darling
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Fayette, Maine