



May 12, 2023

Senator Stacy Brenner

Representative Lori Gramlich

Members of the Joint Standing Environment and Natural Resources

100 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Support of LD 1909: "An Act to Modernize Maine's Beverage Container Redemption Law"

Senator Brenner, Representative Gramlich, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources my name is Lori Voornas and starting Monday, May 15th I will be cohosting a morning show with my long-time radio partner Jeff Parsons on WHOM. For over 20 years I hosted a morning show on the Q 97.9 where the Cans for a Cure fund raiser became near and dear to my heart.

Last year, Cans for a Cure celebrated its 20th year, something I am extremely proud of. All the money raised goes to the Maine Cancer Foundation. They are dedicated to reducing cancer incidence and mortality rates in Maine by leading a statewide endeavor to foster and grow the most promising and effective cancer-fighting efforts available. Here in Maine our cancer rates are higher than the national average with approximately 8,600 newly diagnosed cancer patients each year.

In the past twenty years, Cans for a Cure has raised over half a million dollars for the Maine Cancer Foundation. Each year more and more people become involved and join our cause. By partnering with local businesses, like Oxford Casino, holding the annual bottle drive, and accepting monetary donations our fundraising goal has increased dramatically since we began.

One relatively new funding source has been CLYNK donations. CLYNK offers a program called "CLYNK to Give" which allows customers to directly donate their bottle money to Cans for a Cure. Since becoming a partner, Cans for a Cure has raised \$103,511.95! The ability to donate cans and bottles year-round, and not have to wait for the yearly bottle drive has clearly contributed significantly to our fundraising efforts. Without CLYNK, there is NO Cans for a Cure.

LD 1909 will add helpful definitions into Maine law that recognize CLYNK's unique recycling system. I urge you to support this legislation so this Maine-based business can continue to assist

the fundraising efforts of Cans for a Cure and the countless other causes that receive donations through their easy-to-use program.

Thank you for your time and service to the State of Maine.