

Bottle Bill

May 3, 1971

The Honorable Arthur H. Jones
Senator of Orleans - Essex County
Box 56
Morgan, Vermont 05853

Re: House Bill 100

As you know, I spent all of Saturday, May 1, visiting the seven northern counties in Vermont to watch their activities on Green Up Day. I did this by the use of airplane and automobile and dropped into quite a number of towns in this way and there met with many hundreds of people involved in the activity. Everywhere I went, I was subject to close questioning concerning the above bill and the reasons why it was not passed. In many cases there was strong resentment exhibited. For example, in Middlebury, a young college student had a pick-up truck which was engaged in the activity with a sign on both sides of the truck referring to the fact that the bottle ban bill was not passed.

I am convinced that the time has come for the State to respond by some sort of bottle banning bill. I am aware that the bill which is now reposing in your committee was amended on the floor of the House rather hastily and undoubtedly the bill needs a lot of work done on it in your committee.

What I am asking you is whether you think it possible that your committee can and will do some work on it this summer. I would be glad to be of any help I can as you decide to move this this direction.

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In any event, I would greatly appreciate it if you could keep me posted as to any activity in this direction as I am deeply concerned that we do not lose the impetus among the young people that Green Up Day has accomplished in these past two years.

Best wishes to you and Mrs. Jones.

Cordially yours,

DCD:etb

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STATE OF VERMONT

SENATE CHAMBER

MONTPELIER

05602

Morgan May 5, 1971

Governor Deane C. Davis
State House
Montpelier
Vermont

Re: House Bill 100

Dear Governor:

I admire your leadership in attacking environmental problems and I am aware of your schedules on busy "Green Up Days". Last year I loaded three pickup trucks within two miles of my own home. When the snow leaves Morgan roads (expected by 4th of July !), Arline and I will do the same. Last year and this year we were at UVM Trustees meetings on "the day".

With two weeks left of the last session my committee received several bills of considerable interest and of importance in our fight to clean up the environment. In addition to the "bottle" bill, we had the controversial "Deer Herd" bill. We had numerous appointments to boards. Prior to the Senate's meeting on Mondays I had been calling the Committee in every Monday because, as a morning committee, we were just not given enough time.

Individuals on the committee indicated that they would vote an adverse report if we did not change the House version as amended. I think the mess each year is horrible as do you. Permission has been received for the committee to meet during the recess which we shall do. I wish to schedule this and the deer bill during a time when emotions have cooled.

Part of my concern lies in the effectiveness of the bottle bill as it now stands. Canaan, Bloomfield, Wells River and other border towns do much of their shopping in New Hampshire and would not provide redeemable Vermont bottles. What distributors would establish collection points in our sparsely populated area? People up here have been buying "trash-mashers" so as to save having bottles and cans cluttering.

Thanks for your offer to help: it will be MOST WELCOMED by me.

with great respect

*Cordell
Art Jones*