



Environmental Hot List November 2009

The Massachusetts League of Environmental Voters provides the Environmental Hot List to the legislature to highlight positions on no more than *ten* of the highest priority issues for the upcoming month. These include Mass Green Alliance priority bills as well as those submitted by other environmental organizations. The Environmental Hot List will be distributed each month via email and in hard copy to your office. We hope you find this communication helpful. Please feel free to contact me at megan@mlev.org or 617-462-3633 if you have any questions.

Megan Amundson
Political Director

HB 757 & SB 442 *An Act for a Competitive Economy Through Safer Alternatives to Toxic Chemicals*

Sponsored by Representative Jay Kaufman and Senator Steven Tolman

Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture hearing: November 2, 10am, in room A-2

POSITION: SUPPORT

Contact: Elizabeth Saunders, Clean Water Action, 617-338-8131 ext203

<http://www.healthytomorrow.org/2009/02/alternatives.html>

- The bill will create a program to replace toxic chemicals with safer alternatives wherever feasible.
- It expands the successful Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA) program, which has demonstrated that reducing the use of toxic chemicals both protects health and saves businesses money. It builds upon TURA's proven pragmatic approach to helping MA industries by creating a comprehensive program to replace toxic chemicals with safer alternatives in consumer products and other businesses. It provides technical and financial assistance to businesses to support implementation of safer alternatives.
- The program would address a few chemicals at a time, to demonstrate expertise and success at substituting of safer alternatives.

HB 3515 & SB 1480 *An Act to improve recycling rates in the Commonwealth*, also known as the Updated Bottle Bill

Sponsored by Representative Alice Wolf and Senator Cynthia Stone Creem

Dear Colleague letter to the Joint Committee on Telecommunication, Utilities, and Energy

POSITION: SUPPORT and SIGN ON TO DEAR COLLEAGUE LETTER



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Contact: Janet Domenitz, MASSPIRG, Janet.Domenitz@MASSPIRG.org, 617-292-4800
James McCaffrey, Sierra Club, James.McCaffrey@sierraclub.org

- The Updated Bottle Bill will increase recycling rates and reduce litter by adding bottled water, sports drinks, iced tea, and other non-covered beverages to the current bottle deposit system.
- The Updated Bottle Bill will ease the financial burdens on struggling municipalities and towns, saving communities up to \$7 million in trash disposal costs according to Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) estimates.
- An Updated Bottle Bill will generate millions of dollars annually in additional revenue for the Commonwealth according to DEP estimates.

Upcoming Events

Boston Night to Combat Climate Change

A Benefit Celebration for Oxfam America & Natural Resources Defense Council

Honorary Co-Chairs: Senator John Kerry & Congressman Ed Markey

Pre-event: 6:00 pm | Gala: 7:00 pm

\$150 for the Gala Event | \$250 for the Pre-event & Gala

If tickets are purchased the day of the event, prices are as follows:

\$175 for the Gala Event | \$275 for the Pre-event & Gala

Royal Sonesta Hotel • 40 Edwin Land Boulevard • Cambridge, MA 02142

Sonesta.com/Boston • www.bostonnighttocombatclimatechange.org