

Coleen Anderson

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed 10-cent recycling refund program in Washington.

As a child, I fondly remember collecting glass bottles to redeem for candy money. That early experience taught me firsthand how powerful a financial incentive can be. Implementing a modern version of this system will give everyone a tangible, rewarding reason to participate in recycling, providing the exact motivation our state needs to keep valuable materials out of our landfills.

Furthermore, I agree with the proposal's equity measures to exempt SNAP participants and local craft breweries from certain fees. However, I believe these exemptions should come with a caveat: these businesses and participants should pledge to recycle whenever possible and actively encourage their customers and communities to do the same.

Finally, to make returning containers as accessible and community-driven as possible, designated redemption sites should include churches, non-profits, and other civic groups that are already successfully collecting and recycling aluminum cans in bulk. Partnering with these existing community networks will maximize the program's reach and success.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on this study