

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

AB 899 (Ransom)

As Amended August 18, 2025

Majority vote

SUMMARY

Authorizes the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to increase the cap on market development payments for glass beverage container manufacturers from \$50 to \$150 per ton and to expend \$20 million per year from the California Beverage Container Recycling Fund (BCRF) for these payments.

Senate Amendments

- 1) Revise the legislative intent to apply to glass beverage containers generally, rather than glass wine bottles.
- 2) Authorize CalRecycle to set different levels of market development payments, as specified.

COMMENTS

The Bottle Bill was established in 1986 to be a self-funded program to prevent littering and achieve an 80% recycling rate for eligible containers. The program requires consumers to pay a deposit for each eligible container purchased. The program then guarantees consumers repayment of that deposit, known as the California Redemption Value (CRV), for each eligible container returned to a certified recycler. CalRecycle administers the program and handles all program payments, including CRV, through the BCRF. Despite paying the CRV deposit, not all consumers recycle their CRV-eligible containers. The BCRF retains unredeemed deposits, and state law requires that much of the unredeemed CRV be spent on specified recycling related programs. Only certain containers containing certain beverages are part of the CRV program.

SB 1013 (Atkins), Chapter 610, Statutes of 2022, amended the program to include wine and distilled spirits, including those contained in boxes, bladders, pouches, or similar containers, beginning January 1, 2024. SB 353 (Dodd), Chapter 868, Statutes of 2023, further expands the program to include large containers for juice containers beginning January 1, 2026.

By adding new container types to the Bottle Bill, SB 1013 and SB 353 increased revenues in the BCRF due to an increase in unredeemed CRV funds. In order to incentivize recycling increased glass containers from the addition of wine and distilled spirits, SB 1013 authorized \$60 million annually from the BCRF for glass market development payments until January 1, 2028.

However, CalRecycle awarded only \$4.2 million for market development payments in 2023 and \$9.9 million in 2024. The department expects to award \$11.2 million in payments this year. This bill directs CalRecycle to dedicate portion of the unallocated \$60 million authorized by SB 1013 to incentivize the recycling of in-state recycled glass to be used by in-state wine beverage manufacturers.

The Glass Packaging Institute (GPI), the sponsor of this bill, argues that the domestic glass container manufacturers operate at a competitive disadvantage because they must comply with in-state recycled content requirements, in-state carbon emission reductions, federal and regional air quality regulations, and higher energy, transportation, labor costs. GPI contends that the lack

of market demand by California wineries for California glass affects the continued operation of the four unionized glass container manufacturing plants in the state.

According to the Author

Unfairly subsidized imports, particularly from China, threaten local manufacturers, and recent tariffs on Chinese glass imports underscore the need for a resilient, sustainable supply chain. Many of California's glass plants face closure due to this unfair competition, putting local jobs and the state's glass production industry at risk. This bill incentivizes local glass production, creating jobs, reducing reliance on foreign imports, and supporting California's environmental goals through increased recycling and waste reduction.

Arguments in Support

GPI writes in support:

The incentive payments in AB 899 will encourage California glass plants to maintain full production, lower the cost of production and assist California-made glass bottles to be more price competitive, leveling the playing field with glass bottles imported from overseas manufacturers.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee:

- 1) Ongoing cost pressures of \$20 million each year for two years (BCRF), from January 1, 2028 to January 1, 2030, for glass market development payments.
- 2) CalRecycle anticipates its costs to administer glass market development payments for an additional two years would be minor and absorbable.

VOTES:

ASM NATURAL RESOURCES: 14-0-0

YES: Bryan, Alanis, Connolly, Ellis, Flora, Garcia, Haney, Hoover, Kalra, Muratsuchi, Pellerin, Schultz, Wicks, Zbur

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 11-0-4

YES: Wicks, Arambula, Calderon, Caloza, Elhawary, Fong, Mark González, Hart, Pacheco, Pellerin, Solache

ABS, ABST OR NV: Sanchez, Dixon, Ta, Tangipa

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0-0

YES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

SENATE FLOOR: 39-0-1

YES: Allen, Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ABS, ABST OR NV: Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: August 18, 2025

CONSULTANT: Elizabeth MacMillan / NAT. RES. / (916) 319-2092

FN: 0001791