The Governor signed SF2378 on June 17, 2022. The legislation amends certain provisions in Iowa Code 455C (the Bottle Bill). For the most part, the changes are not effective until January 1, 2023, except as explained below. This fact sheet is intended to address certain short-term changes to the bottle bill redemption program. A more comprehensive fact sheet will be developed over the next few months.

FOR IOWANS SEEKING TO REDEEM CONTAINERS:
- The deposit is still 5 cents. You will receive the deposit when you redeem the containers. This has not changed.
- You may see a change as to where you redeem the containers. As explained below, some stores may now opt out of the redemption program depending on if there is a redemption center nearby (see below). If a store will not redeem your containers, they must tell you where an existing “approved redemption center” is located where you can take them. You may wish to call the store first before trying to redeem.
- Other changes to the law are summarized below. Many of these do not affect your ability to redeem your containers, but some do, so we suggest reading the entire document.

WHEN DO THE RECENT CHANGES TO THE BOTTLE BILL TAKE EFFECT?
- A portion of the recently enacted bottle bill amendments is in effect. This provision allows dealers (stores) to refuse to accept containers for redemption if there is an approved redemption center within a certain distance (see below) or if they have an existing agreement with a “mobile redemption center.”
  
  The Legislature did not give the DNR the authority to approve “mobile redemption centers” until January 1, 2023. Additionally, the legislature did not give dealers the option to refuse to redeem if there is an “unapproved redemption center” within the distance referenced in the statute.

- As such, dealers (stores) may only refuse to accept containers if there is an existing “approved redemption center” within the distances referenced in the statute. Stores must post the location of the redemption center at their facility so that consumers are aware of where to redeem their containers.

- Except for the above-referenced section of the new law, the remainder of the changes to the bottle bill amendments do not take effect until January 1, 2023.

- Additionally, DNR does not have authority to enforce this provision, or the amended provisions, of the law until January 1, 2023.

ARE STORES STILL REQUIRED TO REDEEM CONTAINERS?
Effective immediately, stores in counties with a population of 30,000 or greater can opt out of redemption activities if an “approved redemption center” is within 10 miles. Stores in counties with a population less than 30,000 can opt out of redemption activities if an “approved redemption center” is within 15 miles. Stores with an agreement with an “approved redemption center” for the operation of a mobile redemption system can opt out of redemption activities.

- Beginning January 1, 2023 stores that hold food establishment licenses, have a US-FDA certified food protection manager, and sell food that is time/temperature controlled for safety can opt out of redemption activities.

- Stores that opt out of redeeming containers for any of these reasons must conspicuously display on their front door a notice that provides the location of the nearest “approved redemption center”.
DO I STILL GET 5 CENTS BACK WHEN I REDEEM MY CONTAINER?

- Yes, the refund value remains at 5 cents. However, beginning January 1, 2023 redemption centers and participating dealers will have up to 10 days to pay the customer.

I OWN A REDEMPTION CENTER AND HEARD THE HANDLING FEE INCREASED TO 3 CENTS. IS THAT TRUE?

- Beginning January 1, 2023 redemption centers and participating dealers will receive a 3 cent handling fee. Until January 1, 2023 the handling fee remains 1 cent. For “Dealer Agents,” the handling fee will remain at 1 cent per container.

HOW IS THE BOTTLE BILL ENFORCED?

- The new legislation provides for both criminal and civil enforcement authority. Until January 1, 2023, all enforcement authority remains with local law enforcement. Non-compliance with certain provisions remain a criminal misdemeanor. However, beginning January 1, 2023 the DNR will also have enforcement authority via the issuance of administrative orders, administrative penalties, and referral to the Attorney General for civil enforcement.

E-mail bottlebill@dnr.iowa.gov with any questions.