



MASSACHUSETTS FOOD ASSOCIATION

## MASSACHUSETTS BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION

44 SCHOOL STREET, SUITE 710, BOSTON, MA 02108  
PHONE 617-423-6600 FAX: 617-423-6477

December 17, 2014

Dear Legislator:

We are writing to share some important information with you regarding the results of Question 2 that appeared on the ballot November 4<sup>th</sup>. Question 2 asked voters if they wanted to expand the current bottle deposit law and the answer was an overwhelming "no" (73.5% No to 26.5% Yes). In fact, more people voted No on Question 2 than voted for or against any other question or candidate on the ballot. In all, 1,555,858 voters rejected this outdated idea.

The vast majority of municipalities (307-44) opposed the question and made it clear that they did not want to expand the current system of forced deposits but prefer comprehensive solutions that are convenient, cost effective and modern. 192 communities rejected the question by 75% or more! These results confirm what we believe, that the people of Massachusetts want to recycle and do what is right for the environment but they have come to realize there are better ways to achieve these goals.

Cities and towns are embracing new methods to increase recycling and reduce the amount of solid waste and the results have been dramatic. These changes are good for the communities' bottom lines and make recycling far easier for its residents. The easier it is to recycle, the more people will do it.

The voters have spoken loud and clear and we want to make sure you are aware of these compelling results. Enclosed please find a copy of the Town by Town results as compiled by the Boston Globe on November 5, 2014. This outcome is a definitive sign it is time to re-examine the Commonwealth's solid waste and recycling policy.

Please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss these results in greater detail or to review our ideas for increasing the state's recycling rate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Flynn', written over a horizontal line.

Chris Flynn  
Massachusetts Food Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephen A. Boksanski', written over a horizontal line.

Stephen A. Boksanski  
Massachusetts Beverage Association