

WHAT IS THE Real Impact OF REPEALING COLUMBIA'S 5¢ BOTTLE AND CAN DEPOSIT LAW?

Repeal supporters are using
'fuzzy math' and hiding the
facts from voters.

Vote NO

Myth:

"The City of Columbia currently has two programs designed to encourage recycling – the Blue Bag system and the nickel deposit law.

Unfortunately, they compete with each other."

– Repeal supporters' advertisement, March 17, 2002

Fact:

Columbia's Deposit Ordinance is more than a recycling program – it's a litter prevention program as well. Blue Bag recycling does nothing to clean-up litter.

And the Blue Bag program does nothing to collect beverage containers purchased away from home, during busy work days or in parks and stadiums.

The two programs serve different purposes and complement each other. Together they recover more containers than either one alone.

Myth:

The deposit system "robs the Blue Bag system of over \$200,000 in recycling revenue every year-money that could be used to expand our ability to recycle and help make the program financially self-sufficient."

– Repeal supporters' advertisement, March 17, 2002

Fact:

In their enthusiasm, **repeal supporters are using 'fuzzy math' and are hiding essential facts from voters.** Everyone knows that a household budget must include income and expenses.

Beer and soft drink companies and grocers bankrolling Prop. 1 fail to tell you in their advertising that Blue Bag curbside recycling is an expensive way to collect plastic and glass bottles – it costs far more money to collect these bottles than the city gets back from selling them.

As plastics replace aluminum as the packaging choice of soft drink leaders like Coca-Cola and Pepsi, **Blue Bag income from aluminum cans will drop steadily, year by year.**

THE TRUTH IS that deposits are simply the most effective solution to bottle and can litter, and they produce the highest beverage container recycling rates in Missouri. Columbia's deposit ordinance is a shining example of a public policy that works, at virtually no cost to taxpayers.

If deposits are repealed, **Columbia's image as a clean and beautiful city will be tarnished as the trash piles up.** And you, the taxpayers, gets stuck with the expense of cleaning up the mess.

Columbia's deposit ordinance really is "too good to throw away".

On Proposition 1 on April 2nd

CRI

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INSTITUTE

For more information, call us at:
(703) 276-9800

or visit our websites:

www.bottlebill.org

www.container-recycling.org

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