

Senate Committee

COMMITTEE MINUTES for NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

Date: *February 7, 2019*

Location: *RM 22*

Convened: *1:05 PM*

Adjourned: *1:45 PM*

Attendance Roll Call:

Present: Senators Rozenboom-CH, Shipley-VC, Hogg-RM, Behn, Boulton, Celsi,
Cournoyer, Kapucian, Segebart, Smith, J., Sweeney, Zumbach

Absent:

Excused: Senator Lykam

Meeting came to order at 1:04 pm.

Roll call was taken silently by the committee secretary. Senator(s) who were not present were excused until their arrival.

The minutes from the previous meeting on 02/05/19 were approved.

The subcommittee assignments were distributed.

Chairman Senator Rozenboom welcomed the guests presenting to the committee. Doctor Dermot Hayes from the Iowa State Professor and Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association. Also Ms. Susan Collins, President of the Container Recycling Institute. Doctor Dermot Hayes was introduced to the committee and spoke about what bottle recycling was like 40 years ago. He further explained the market-based system on bottle recycling. Chairman Senator Rozenboom opened the floor to discussion and questions. Discussion ensued. Seeing no further discussion, Susan Collins was introduced to the committee and spoke about Iowa's Beverage Container Deposit Program. She further explained the three main components of the program: quantity, quality, and litter reduction.

Chairman Senator Rozenboom opened the floor to discussion and questions.

Chairman Senator Rozenboom recognized Senator Segebart who asked how bottles get in the ocean and how much money goes into a regular plastic bottle. Discussion ensued.

Chairman Senator Rozenboom recognized Senator Cournoyer who asked about the states of Michigan and Oregon who have recycling programs with no handling fees. Senator Cournoyer further explained consumer frustration involved in recycling. Presenters responded.

Chairman Senator Rozenboom recognized Senator Hogg who asked what combination would produce the highest redemption rate. Discussion ensued.

Chairman Senator Rozenboom recognized Senator Sweeney who asked for clarification on the handling fee. Discussion ensued.

Chairman Senator Rozenboom asked for further explanation on the discrepancies in rates of recycling (71% vs. 64%). Presenters responded.

Chairman Senator Rozenboom was given unanimous consent to address the audience for further discussion. An audience member from Mid America Recycling stated the differences in calculation are due to the weight and quality of the bottle. The audience member agreed to provide further information.

Senator Celsi spoke, commenting on how consumers need to do more of the sorting.

Chairman Senator Rozenboom recognized Senator Sweeney who showed interest in implementing a tour of a recycling center in her district.

Audience member Alex Moon from the DNR was introduced to the committee. He stated the discussion during the meeting was accurate.

Chairman Senator Rozenboom thanked the presenters for coming and for sharing information with the committee.

Senator J. Smith moved to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at. 1:46 pm.

Senator Ken Rozenboom

Gina Ten Pas, Committee Secretary