



FINAL REPORT

Legislative Fiscal Committee of the Legislative Council

January 12, 2026

MEMBERS

Senator Tim Kraayenbrink, Co-Chairperson
Senator Tony Bisignano
Senator Dan Dawson
Senator Janet Petersen
Senator Dan Zumbach

Representative Gary M. Mohr, Co-Chairperson
Representative Megan Srinivas
Representative David Jacoby
Representative Shannon Latham
Representative Carter F. Nordman

LSA CONTACTS: Organizational staffing provided by: Maria Wagenhofer, Division Administrator, 515.281.5270; Minutes prepared by: Xavier Leonard, Fiscal Legislative Analyst, 515.725.0509

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I. Authorization and Charge

Pursuant to [Senate File 2378](#) (2022 Iowa Acts, chapter 1139, section 18), the Legislative Fiscal Committee was required to hold a meeting during the legislative interim immediately preceding the 2026 regular legislative session. The charge of the meeting was to review the enforcement of Iowa Code chapter [455C](#) (Beverage Container Control), including the collection of civil penalties, the Beverage Container Legal Proceeding Report provided by the Attorney General, whether and how many redemption centers have been approved by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the adequacy of the reimbursement amount under Iowa Code section [455C.2](#), and any other information the Committee deems important.

II. Committee Proceedings

The Legislative Fiscal Committee met on January 12, 2026.

III. January 12, 2026, Meeting

Mary Klemesrud, a representative from the DNR, responded to four questions previously proposed by the Committee regarding the Bottle Deposit Law and as required by 2022 Iowa Acts, [chapter 1139](#) (Regulation, Redemption, and Disposal of Beverage Containers Act) (Bottle Bill). The questions, and the representatives' responses, are as follows:

Question 1: What enforcement measures under Iowa Code chapter 455C, as amended under 2022 Iowa Acts, chapter 1139 (Bottle Bill), were taken [by the DNR]?

Response 1: The DNR has not taken any formal enforcement measures under Iowa Code chapter 455C. The DNR receives complaints through email, by phone, or via written letters. Ms. Klemesrud stated that approximately 400 questions and complaints were answered since mid-2023.

Question 2: How many civil penalties were issued, and how much civil penalty revenue was collected?



Response 2: No civil penalties have been issued or collected.

Question 3: Has the DNR approved any redemption centers in the State? If so, how many?

Response 3: Yes, the DNR has approved redemption centers in the state. As of January 12, 2026, there were 136 approved redemption centers. Ms. Klemesrud noted that redemption centers are required to apply for registration annually, and as a result, the total number of approved redemption centers can fluctuate. An interactive map and the ability to export a tabular list of redemption centers across the State is available on the DNR website: programs.iowadnr.gov/solidwaste/bottlebill/map.

Question 4: What commentary does the DNR have on the adequacy of reimbursement under Iowa Code section 455C.2?

Response 4: Ms. Klemesrud stated that the DNR does not have information to provide commentary on the adequacy of reimbursement.

There was additional Committee discussion regarding the exemptions under Iowa Code chapter 455C for businesses, including exemptions for retailers with a food preparation license and the requirement for retailers in counties with a population of 30,000 or more to have a redemption center within a 10-mile radius for retailers to be able to opt out of accepting redemptions, while retailers in counties with a population of less than 30,000 must have a redemption center within a 15-mile radius to be able to opt out of accepting redemptions. Committee members discussed the timeline in which the DNR initiates the next step following repeated noncompliance by a business. Committee members asked the DNR for additional information regarding how conversations with dollar store businesses on noncompliance have gone in the past.

Committee members discussed the Beverage Container Control Legal Proceeding Report from the Office of the Attorney General (AG), including asking how many complaints and referrals the AG's Office has received related to Iowa Code chapter 455C, the process for starting a referral, and how the AG's



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Office would address noncompliant businesses, specifically related to dollar stores. Dan Breitbarth, Assistant Attorney General, stated that the AG's Office has not received any referrals and has not prosecuted any business under Iowa Code chapter 455C. The Committee members asked the AG's Office for additional information regarding referrals and the process for resolving noncompliance.

IV. Findings and Recommendations

The Committee is required to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than January 31, 2026. The Committee will continue to monitor the implementation of 2022 Iowa Acts, chapter 1139 (Bottle Bill), across the State; the Committee did not vote to approve any findings or recommendations at this time.

V. Materials Filed with the Legislative Services Agency

Materials were distributed at or in connection with the meeting and are filed with the Legislative Services Agency. The materials may be accessed from the "Committee Documents" link on the Committee's website, accessible at the following address:

www.legis.iowa.gov/committees/meetings/documents?committee=704&ga=ALL.