



May 10, 2018

Chairman Jeffrey Sánchez
House Committee on Ways and Means
Room 243
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Andrew Gottlieb
Executive Director

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RE: *An Act Promoting the Proper Disposal of Miniatures* (H.3528)

Dear Chairman Sánchez:

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) writes to you in strong support of *An Act Promoting the Proper Disposal of Miniatures* (H.3528) and respectfully requests that the House Committee on Ways and Means release this bill for a vote by the House of Representatives.

Founded in 1968, APCC is the leading regional non-profit environmental advocacy and education organization on Cape Cod. Supported by thousands of members from every Cape Cod town, APCC's mission is to promote policies and programs that foster the preservation of the Cape's natural resources. APCC focuses its efforts on the protection of groundwater, surface water, and wetland resources, preservation of open space, the promotion of responsible, planned growth and the achievement of an environmental ethic.

APCC is increasingly concerned about the proliferation of discarded miniature liquor bottles—popularly known as “nips”—that are the source of a growing litter problem in communities on Cape Cod, as well as in many other Massachusetts cities and towns. In a number of recent community-based cleanup projects on the Cape, nips bottles were reported to be the predominant type of litter collected by volunteer crews. In addition to marring the landscape, nips are an environmental hazard, taking many decades for the plastic bottles to biodegrade and causing harm to marine life when they find their way into water bodies.

An Act Promoting the Proper Disposal of Miniatures (H.3528) would add nips bottles to the existing five-cent bottle deposit law. The deposit law has significantly reduced the disposal and littering of carbonated soft drink, beer, malt beverage and sparkling water containers, resulting in 80 percent of them being recycled. Adding nips bottles to the deposit law will help reduce litter by giving consumers an incentive to return empty bottles for the five-cent deposit instead of tossing them onto our roads, parks and beaches.

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Tel: 508-619-3185 | info@apcc.org | www.apcc.org

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. DUES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TAX DEDUCTIBLE AS PROVIDED BY LAW.

We ask the House Committee on Ways and Means to support H.3528 and to release this bill as soon as possible. Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Gottlieb', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Gottlieb
Executive Director

cc: Rep. Randy Hunt
Rep. Sarah Peake
Rep. Timothy Whelan
Rep. William Crocker
Rep. David Vieira
Rep. Dylan Fernandes