

Lou Mansolillo

From: Nicole Gasbarro <nicole@philgasbarro.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 1:57 PM
To: House Environment and Natural Resources Committee
Subject: OPPOSE H8312

To whom it may concern,

My name is Nicole Gasbarro and I own Phil Gasbarro Liquors in East Providence RI. I oppose Bill H8312 as written and feel like we are not being heard and have been completely disregarded as an industry. If this bill is passed written as is it will hurt small businesses in Rhode Island tremendously. This bill holds small business owners responsible for people's behavior that has nothing to do with us. I have trash cans and signs all over my building asking to not litter, I partake in clean ups, I have my staff and a hired cleaning company go around the building to clean up trash and bottles multiple times a week. We are doing our part, and as an industry we recognize the problem but support centralized redemption centers that people can visit in their towns to return bottles to a place that is equipped to deal with waste management. Why should we be responsible for being a redemption center but corporate companies like Dunkin' Donuts and Cumberland farms have their cups littered daily across the state but aren't held to the same standards as small business owners?

Please vote against this bill and help keep small businesses in Rhode Island alive.

Thank you,
Nicole M Gasbarro