How Do Rep. Hepler and Rep. Crockett's Bottle Bill Modernization Proposals Compare?

Proposed Change to Bottle Bill	Rep. Hepler LD 1909	Rep. Crockett LD 1910
Simplified sorting of containers by material type, not brand	Yes. Redemption centers will only have to sort by material type no matter what technology they use.	Yes. Redemption centers will only have to sort by material type, except CLYNK would still be required to report by brand.
Creation of a nonprofit commingling cooperative to manage the program	Yes. With a board of directors that represent all stakeholders in the Bottle Bill program.	Yes. But with a board of directors that only represents the beverage manufacturers.
Equitable use of the "unclaimed" deposits that are funded by consumers that didn't redeem their containers	Yes. An estimated \$16.7 M per year in consumer funds will be used to maintain and improve the Bottle Bill program or support other beneficial public programs.	No. The \$16.7 M per year in consumer funds would belong to the beverage manufacturers, tax-free, with no accounting or reporting to the State after 3 years of sharing a small percentage.
Fair handling fee paid to redemption centers to match inflation so they can stay in business and pay living wages	Yes. The bill would maintain the 6-cent handling fee in LD 134 and adds in CPI adjustment every 2 years to keep pace with inflation.	No. The bill proposes to decrease the handling fee from 6 cents to 5 cents, and then further back to 4.5 cents.
Provisions to reduce waste and increase recycling	Yes. The cooperative will work to maintain an 85% recycling rate and invest in activities that result in more reuse and refill.	No. The cooperative will work to maintain the current estimated 75% redemption, and then 80% by 2035; with no investment in reuse.
Incentives for use of reverse vending machines by redemption centers, which verify and crush the containers, collect data, and reduce transportation costs and greenhouse gas emissions	Yes. There will be an extra one cent per container given to every redemption center that uses a reverse vending machine.	No. The redemption centers that have currently invested in reverse vending machines would have little incentive to keep them since they would no longer be forced to sort and count by brand.
Acknowledgment of CLYNK as a unique part of the redemption program that is responsible for redeeming 25% of all containers in Maine	Yes. Definitions of "bag-drop" and "account based bulk processing" are added to the program to acknowledge the drop-and-go redemption model, and CLYNK's processing technology.	No. The proposal adds a definition for "bag drop" but fails to recognize that CLYNK's processing facility is different from a reverse vending machine.
Timely pick-up and payment to redemption centers from the beverage manufacturers	Yes. Increases frequency to weekly pick-up, and such that no redemption center is holding more than 20,000 containers absent a different arrangement. Penalties for noncompliance including storage fees.	No. It maintains inadequate schedule of every 15 days, with additional pick-up if a center has more than 40,000 containers.
Fairly allocates handling fee costs for small beverage companies	Yes. Ensures that no beverage manufacturer pays handling fees on containers that were never redeemed.	No. Maintains status quo, where distributors may continue to charge a small beverage manufacturer for handling fees on containers that were never redeemed.

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