

HB

532

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 4/7/90

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE:

4/24/90

Labor and Commerce

Committee considered

CSHB 532 (Fin) am

"An Act requiring the placement of certain coding on certain plastic bottles and containers; and providing for an effective date."

and recommended:

- replace with _____ CS _____
- or adopt _____ CS _____
- attached amendment(s)
- _____ letter of intent adopted

- same title
- new title
- technical title change (HB only)

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to _____

FN
forthcoming

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Dept/Date:

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____
Dept of Enviv Conservation
4/24/90

appropriation-no fiscal note

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

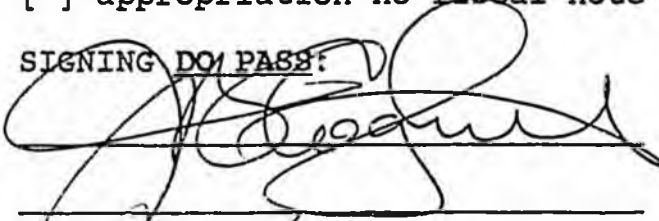
Dept/Date:

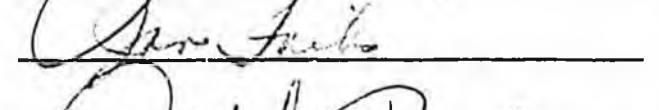
fiscal note(s) _____

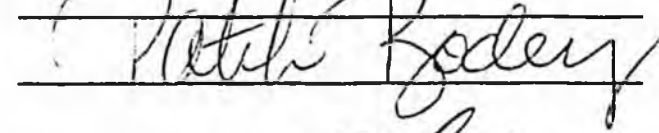
zero fiscal note(s) _____

Governor's bill w/fiscal note

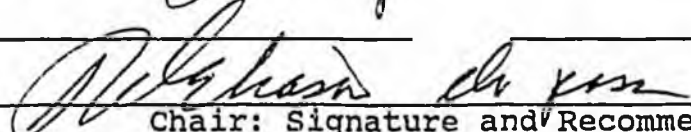
SIGNING DO/PASS:







OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:



Chair: Signature and Recommendation

Alaska State Legislature

Anchorage * District 10

P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-2828

3111 C Street, Suite 412
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 561-2040




Member
Alaska Legislative
Council
Labor & Commerce
Committee
Special Committee
on Foreign Trade
Finance Sub-Committee
for Labor

Representative Virginia Collins

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Richard Eliason, Chair
Senate Labor & Commerce Committee

FROM: Representative Virginia Collins 

DATE: April 7, 1990

RE: Hearing Request for House Bill 532, "An Act requiring the placement of certain coding on certain plastic bottles and containers; and providing for an effective date"

I respectfully request that you schedule House Bill 532 for hearing in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee as soon as possible.

CSHB 532 (FJN) am would require a code on certain plastic bottles or containers. This would identify the type of resin used to produce the bottle or container and would enable the container to be recycled more efficiently. A person found in violation of this would be guilty of a civil penalty of \$50 for each violation.

The model for this bill was drafted by the Society of the Plastic Industries, Inc. Similar legislation has been passed in 21 states and is pending in nother 10 states.

House Bill 532 is non-controversial and has the support of environmental groups, ALPAR, the plastic industry, and retailers.

If you have any questions, please contact Marveen in my office at 465-2828.

Alaska State Legislature

P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-2828

Anchorage * District 10



Member
Alaska Legislative
Council
Labor & Commerce
Committee
Special Committee
on Foreign Trade
Finance Sub-Committee
for Labor

3111 C Street, Suite 412
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 561-2040

Representative Virginia Collins

HOUSE BILL 532

SPONSOR STATEMENT

House Bill 532 would require a code on certain plastic bottles and containers. A person could not manufacture, sell, or offer to sell certain plastic bottles or containers without this code. The code would identify the type of resin used to produce the bottle or container.

The code would consist of a number placed within a specific triangle of arrows and a letter or letters placed below the triangle of arrows. There would be 7 different numbers and corresponding letters to identify the types of resins. The department would be required to maintain a list of the codes and to supply the list upon request. A person found in violation of this would be guilty of a civil penalty of \$50 for each violation. The effective date of this bill is July 1, 1991.

The model for this proposed legislation was drafted by the Society of the Plastic Industries, Inc. in response to legislators and environmentalists who asked the plastics industry for a code to expedite plastics recycling. Similar legislation has been passed in 21 states and 10 other states have legislation pending. HB 532 has the support of environmentalists, ALPAR, the plastics industry, and retailers.

It is estimated that Americans currently discard over 158 million tons of municipal solid waste each year. We have entered into an era in which landfilling will no longer be the primary method of garbage disposal. Recycling in the U.S. has steadily increased since the mid-1960's.

The sorting of plastics by resin provides for more expeditious recycling. Aside from those 21 states which have passed plastic coding legislation, a total of 32 states are currently involved in the plastic recycling industry. Their involvement consists of negotiating to buy from collectors, recycling the plastic, producing the recycled plastic product, or manufacturing equipment for the recycling process.

In addition to establishing a more efficient plastic recycling system, this legislation would enable recyclers to obtain a higher level of "pure" material for resale markets. Public awareness is a prime ingredient to a successful recycling program and the coding system would help to increase the public's awareness of the recycling potential for plastics.

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
Title: An Act requiring the placement
of certain coding on plastic bottles...
Sponsor: Rep. Virginia Collins
Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: Environmental Conservation
BRU: Environmental Quality
Components: _____
Environmental Quality

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL		5.0				
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	5.0	0	0	0	0
CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
REVENUE	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Copying costs and limited advertising campaign
\$5,000/FY 92 only

Prepared by: Rep. David Donley
Division: House Labor and Commerce Committee

Phone: 465-4954
Date: 2/27/90

Approved by Commissioner: David Donley
Agency: House Labor and Commerce Committee

Date: 2/27/90

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance
Legislative Sponsor
Requestor
Office of Management and Budget
Impacted Agency(ies)

STATE OF ALASKA
1990 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION : CSHB 532(Finance)AM

PUBLISH DATE : _____

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date 4/24/90
 Title: An Act requiring codes on plastic containers
 Sponsor: Representative Collins
 Requestor: Senator Eliason

Agency Affected: DEC
 BRU: Environmental Quality
 Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND&STRUCTURES						
GRANTS,CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
REVENUE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS: none

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Voluntary efforts conducted by plastics manufacturers will address most of the information needs for this bill.

Prepared by: Jeff Mach
 Division: Environmental Quality

Phone: 465-2671
 Date: 24-Apr-90

Approved by Commissioner: A. D. King
 Agency: Environmental Conservation

Date: 24 April 1990

Distribution (by preparer) :
 Legislative Finance
 Legislative Sponsor
 Requestor
 Office of Management and Budget
 Impacted Agency(ies)



FAIRBANKS

Daily News-Miner

Your Locally Owned Independent Daily Newspaper

BREAD RISES IN THE EAST

Food ■ Page 15

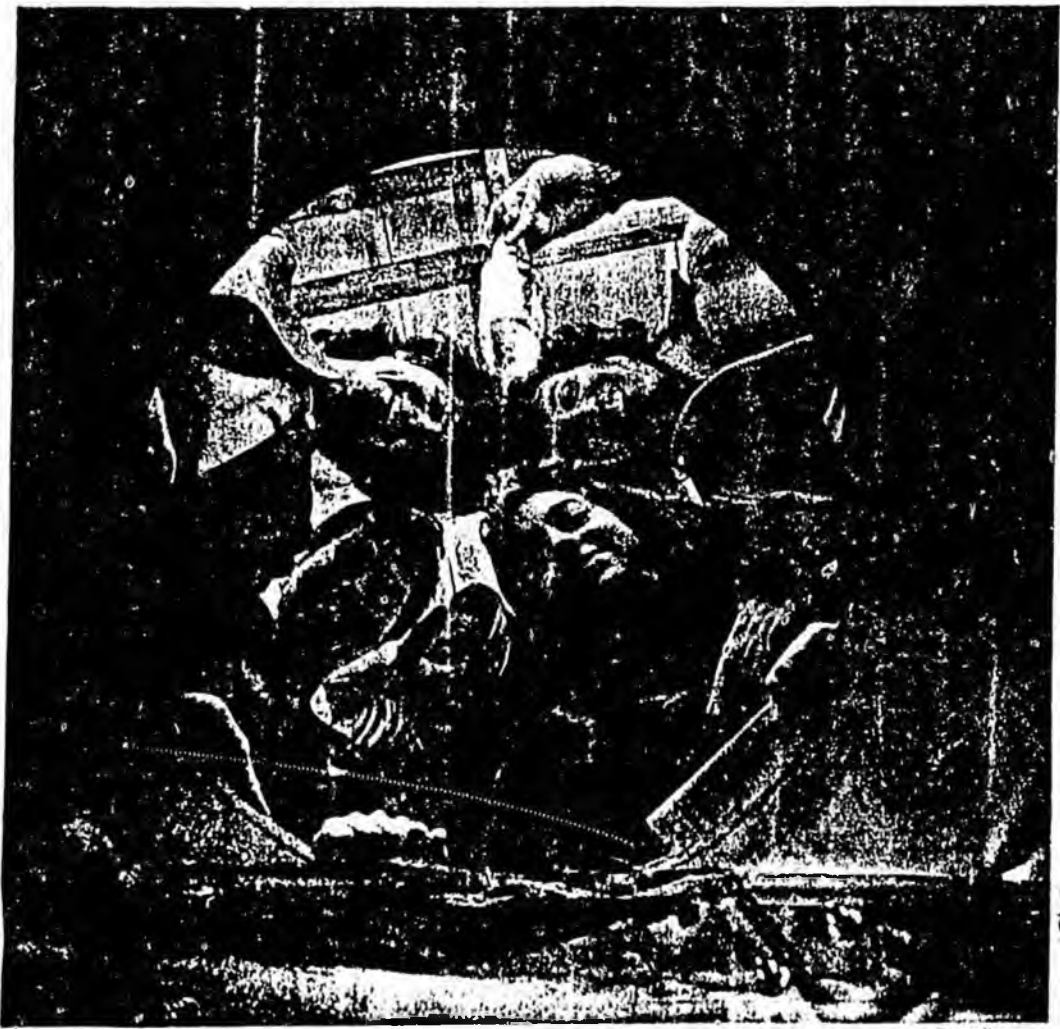
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1990

50¢ Per Copy

★ ★

28 Pages

Recyclers happily have their hands full



M2a Fairbanks News-Miner

DROP IN—Members of the Good Sense Working Group Recycling Project want you to drop your recyclable goods into the bottoms of the barrels that they have set up at

Local project catches on in big way

By MARTHA ELIASSEN
Staff Writer

Good Sense is catching on in Fairbanks.

The Good Sense Working Group Recycling Project, launched a month ago with recycling shelters at Foodland and Weller Elementary School, has inspired Fairbanksans. Each day, people fill the barrels at these shelters with recyclable glass, paper and cans, according to Marti Peale, a Good Sense organizer.

"It's overflowing daily," she said. "We have our hands full."

And that's no complaint. That's exactly what Peale and her Good Sense cohorts hoped would happen.

"The idea is to set it up so it's a permanent part of the community," she said.

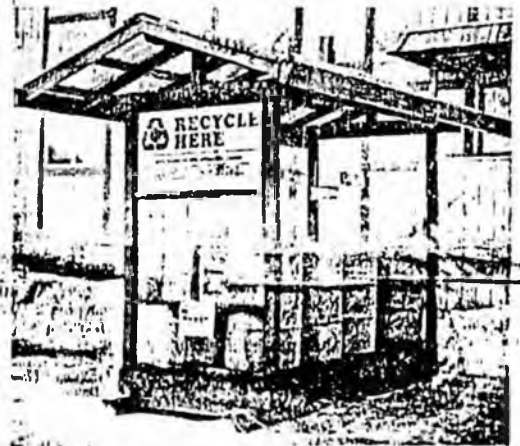
Fairbanks faces spending \$30 million in the next five years to

close an aging landfill and open a new one, Peale said. This summer, a new Environmental Protection Agency regulation will require communities with landfills to recycle at least 25 percent of waste. Considering that up to 80 percent of the items Fairbanks throws away are recyclable, Peale said, recycling does indeed make good sense.

"What they're doing is making trash separation easy," said June Weinstock, president of the Northern Alaska Environmental Center board.

The Good Sense effort has implications beyond the Fairbanks North Star Borough's garbage problems. For people who are interested in doing something to help the environment, this project is a model, Weinstock said.

Good Sense started in November with a core group of about
(See RECYCLE, Page 6)



A recycle shelter at Foodland

Foodland and Weller Elementary. Clockwise, from top right, are Nicole McCullough, Shari Sirkin, Lou Brown, Bruce Stephanson and Marti Peale

RECYCLE: Local group has hands full

(Continued from page 1)
five people who shared an interest in making recycling easy and accessible for Fairbanks residents. The main group has grown to about 10 people who meet each Wednesday.

Most of these people have full-time jobs and are cramming the recycling project into after-work hours and weekends. Peale, a grant writer for the borough's economic development program, has permission from her boss to use a couple hours of office time a week for the project. The rest of the time—two or three hours a day since January—is her own. She is retiring as the project's coordinator, but that's only so she can devote more time to writing grants to expand Good Sense.

Peale and the others don't seem to mind the time they've poured into the recycling effort.

"It's a commitment to improving the human environment in Fairbanks," Peale said.

That commitment may be contagious. As the project took shape, the core group assembled a network of about 100 addi-

tional volunteers who have helped build recycling shelters and are now taking loads of recyclable goods to Sandy's Recycling, which ships the materials Outside.

Local businesses chipped in, too, donating labor and materials. When it was 30 below, Ridgetop Roofing and Gutter provided working space for volunteers to build the shelters. More than \$4,000 was raised to launch the volunteer effort.

"It was a remarkable experience, with everyone saying yes," Peale said.

Each shelter has 10 barrels: two for plastic jugs, two for paper, two for aluminum cans and four for glass. There also are pamphlets with information about how to prepare recyclables and where to take materials that aren't accepted at the shelters.

Two more shelters are scheduled to open this weekend: one at the Borough Office Building and one at the Ester Volunteer Fire Department.

Although the operation seems to be running smoothly, Peale and the Good Sense group need

more help. In addition to new recruits, they'd like to find a youth group to staff the shelters on weekends and answer questions from the public. They're also looking for organizations or businesses to loan vehicles and drivers to haul away full barrels.

"That way, we can take volunteers off of transport and put them on building more shelters," Peale said. "I have a growing list of requests from people (for shelters)."

At the end of May, the group will write an evaluation and submit copies to local government representatives and anyone else who's interested. They hope others may benefit from their experience.

In the future, the service may continue with a combination of volunteer organizers and paid haulers. It may be possible to secure grants to pay drivers who would transport full barrels from shelters all over town. Peale is also writing a proposal to get state funding for a truck.

"We will keep open as many shelters as we can with volunteers," Peale said.

But shelters will close if there aren't enough people to do a good job with the service.

Peale is already looking ahead to the day that Fairbanks not only recycles a considerable portion of its waste, but uses the recycled materials to manufacture products. In her job as a borough grant-writer, she is working on a proposal to establish a recycling industry here.

"Instead of shipping our waste Outside, we will be shipping products Outside," she said.

For more information about Good Sense, call 455 6024.

* 4/05/90 UPDATE

STATES REQUIRING PLASTIC CONTAINER CODING

Prepared by the Council For Solid Waste Solutions January 7, 1990

The following states require the coding of plastics bottles of 16 ounces or more and other rigid plastic containers of 8 ounces or more following the Society of the Plastics Industry voluntary coding program.

DEADLINE FOR CODING

January 1, 1990	Connecticut
July 1, 1990	Florida
January 1, 1991	Wisconsin - regulations pending Illinois Minnesota - proposed regulations Missouri Louisiana Ohio New Jersey
July 1, 1991	Texas Massachusetts Maine North Carolina
December 31, 1991	North Dakota
January 1, 1992	Michigan California Indiana
July 1, 1992	Iowa Colorado

* GEORGIA + VIRGINIA HAVE NOW PASSED LEGISLATION TO BRING TOTAL TO 21 STATES REQUIRING THE CODING.

Note: New Hampshire has enacted legislation to establish a state recycling emblem program which recognizes and protects the SPI voluntary coding program as a distinct material identification system.

1990 Proposed Legislation: Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia * KANSAS = 10 STATES WITH PROPOSED LEGISLATION



THE COUNCIL
FOR SOLID WASTE
SOLUTIONS
1275 K Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005
202 371 5319
FAX 202 371 5679

Plastic Codes Help Recyclers.

Plastics recyclers are finding it easier to sort containers, thanks to the plastics industry's new voluntary coding system. The system, developed by The Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc., helps recyclers to identify the types of plastic used in making individual bottles and other containers.

Already, more than 20% of all polyethylene terephthalate (PET) 2-liter soft drink bottles are being recycled in the U.S., in part because the containers are so easily identifiable. Milk and juice jugs made from high density polyethylene (HDPE) are also relatively easy for recyclers to identify. The coding system, though, makes it easier to separate other, less easily identified, types of plastic containers as well as vinyl, low density polyethylene, polypropylene and polystyrene. As new recycling technologies emerge, recyclers will be able to sort the various plastics to earn the highest price for their reclaimed materials.

The coding system is based on responses to a survey of recycling industry workers and officials. The codes are easy to read and easy to distinguish from other marks placed on plastic containers by manufacturers for use in processing and identification.



The code on each container consists of a triangle formed by three arrows, with a number in the center and distinguishing letters under the triangle. In size, the codes range from approximately 1/2 to 1 inch in diameter. They can be applied by molding or imprinting the bottom of the container.

Plastics Coding System

- 1: PETE (polyethylene terephthalate)
- 2: HDPE (high density polyethylene)
- 3: V (vinyl)
- 4: LDPE (low density polyethylene)
- 5: PP (polypropylene)
- 6: PS (polystyrene)
- 7: Other

The coding system is being phased in over a three-year period, and many bottles and other plastic containers on store shelves are already carrying them. In at least 15 states, laws have been passed which will require coding of plastic containers.

The plastics industry recognizes that future sorting systems will be more mechanized than they are today. The coding system is an interim solution until technology is developed that allows for the automatic identification and sorting of different types of plastics.

For more information about plastics recycling, contact *The Council for Solid Waste Solutions*.



THE COUNCIL
FOR SOLID WASTE
SOLUTIONS

1275 K Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005
202 371 5319
FAX 202 371 5679

The Facts About Plastics.

The Council for Solid Waste Solutions, a program of The Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc., was established to help formulate solutions to the solid waste management problem because we recognize that plastic products are a part of that problem. We recognize, too, that the actions on solid waste issues that will be initiated during the next decade will directly and dramatically affect the quality of life in this country and the world.

Here are a few facts most people don't know about plastics:

- Pound for pound, plastic products account for about **7% of municipal solid waste (or about 18% of the volume)**. Yard and food waste, by comparison, account for 29% of the solid waste stream, paper and paperboard 35%.
- Plastic beverage containers have the second highest "scrap value" of recyclable materials in packaging -- next to aluminum.
- Plastic products have the highest energy value for modern waste-to-energy incineration. For example, the energy content of a pound of polyethylene is 19,900 Btu. A pound of Wyoming coal has an energy value of 9,600 Btu.
- Plastic products have already contributed substantially to source reduction in the waste stream by replacing heavier, thicker materials previously used in packaging and through engineered reductions in the amount of plastic used in containers such as the soft drink bottle.
- More than 20% of all plastic soft drink containers, over 170 million pounds, are already being recycled into new consumer products, and the demand for recycled plastic is growing. Ninety million pounds of the plastic used in milk and detergent containers were recycled in 1988.
- Plastic products are popular because they provide safety and health benefits for which no other material is equally suited, including tamper-evident foods and medicines, shatter-resistant containers, freezer-to-microwave prepared foods and wrappers that preserve freshness.

For more information about plastics' role in solid waste management, and the steps being taken by the plastics industry to solve the waste management problem, write or call *The Council for Solid Waste Solutions*.



1275 K Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20005
202.377.5319

From Soda Bottle to Swimming Pool, Plastics Are Being Recycled.

Technological advances continue to improve the applications for recycled plastic materials. The familiar 2-liter plastic soda bottle, made from polyethylene terephthalate (known as PET) is now being recycled into many products that contribute to the health, safety and well-being of our society.

Recycled PET bottles are now being used in a wide variety of products:

- scouring pads
- paint brushes
- fiberfill for:
 - pillows
 - ski jackets
 - cushions
 - sleeping bags
- appliance handles
- textiles:
 - belts
 - webbing
 - strapping
 - sails
 - woven bags
- non-food containers
- industrial paints
- storage tank insulation
- fibers:
 - carpet face yarns
 - carpet backing
 - rope and twine
 - apparel
- bath tubs and shower stalls
- sinks
- boat hulls
- geotextiles
- automotive components
- swimming pools
- audio cassette cases
- corrugated awnings

The wide range of properties and applications for plastic resins fosters continual development of new processes, new uses and new products made from recycled materials. Beyond technology, collection of used plastics is key to increasing the level of plastics recycling. The American plastics industry is seeking opportunities to work with community organizations and government leaders to expand the collection of used plastic products for recycling.

For more information on the recycling of PET and other plastics, write or call *The Council for Solid Waste Solutions*, a program of The Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc.