



The League of Women Voters of New York State
62 Grand Street, Albany, New York 12207
Phone: 518-465-4162 Fax: 518-465-0812
www.lwvny.org E-Mail: lwvny@lwvny.org

THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
of New York State

July 2, 2012

Ms. Mylan Denerstein
Counsel to the Governor
Executive Chamber
Capitol Building
Albany, N.Y. 12224

Re: Recommend enactment of A.10519/S.7525, “EPF Enhancement Act”

Dear Ms. Denerstein,

League of Women Voters of New York State, representing *fifty Leagues across New York State* respectfully requests that Governor Cuomo sign A.10519/S.7525, the EPF Enhancement Act, into law.

The League of Women Voters is a non partisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government.

This legislation provides much-needed additional funding for the state’s Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), which supports a broad range of programs across the state, including local recycling, watershed protection, parks and open space, farmland preservation, and zoos and botanical gardens. Because of strong League leadership in 1982, NYS passed the original “bottle bill” that required a deposit on all soft drink containers.

More recently, *League of Women Voters of New York State* and its members advocated for passage of the Bigger Better Bottle Bill. One of the major goals of this campaign was to require the beverage industry to turn over unclaimed beverage container deposits to the state to expand the EPF. The state is now collecting about \$115 million a year from these unclaimed deposits. This legislation would phase in a portion of this revenue to the EPF, starting with \$10 million in FY 2013-14 and eventually growing to \$56 million a year.

By signing this bill into law, Governor Cuomo will be showing strong support for protecting New York’s environment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sally Robinson'.

Sally Robinson
President