

Protect animals

I am writing in reference to the article "Researching the Future" on Aug. 15 edition of the ODE. I think it is great for minority students to get opportunities in the UO labs but my concern is the introduction to non-human animal research as a way of research that some of the students practiced. Non-human animal experimentation is an outdated way of research that requires a lot of unnecessary pain and suffering for these victims. Research degrades these wonderful creatures to just mechanical models to dissect and mutilate. Alternatives to this type of research does exist and can overall benefit people to a greater degree. All animals are wonderful beings that need respect. Discrimination of any animal, human or otherwise, is wrong and should be stopped. This includes sexism, racism and even specism!

Chelsea Lincoln
Director, Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

Bravo Bottle Bill

I am writing in response to the recent qualifying of Ballot Measure 37, the Bottle Bill Initiative, for the November election. If I were to summarize my commentary into one word, I'd say "BRAVO!" Let's get those bottles and cans off the roadsides, away from the beaches and out of the rivers of Oregon. Last year, in Oregon alone, over 100 million beverage containers were either littered or landfilled. All of these containers could have been recycled.

The current bottle bill, which only covers carbonated drinks with a 5 cent deposit, has done nothing to control the litter of

non-carbonated, like Snapple bottles and bottled water containers. Littered glass bottles are a legitimate safety hazard, as one Stanford University study found in Florida. In just one year, over 300,000 documented litter-related injuries resulted in \$3 million in hospitalization costs!

I myself have a scar on the bottom of my foot to remind me of an injury I sustained from a broken glass bottle. I was at a car-wash fund-raising event and my barefoot found a broken bottle that had been littered in the parking lot. The cut required stitches and it kept me on crutches for a week. If there had been a deposit on that bottle, it might have been recycled instead of carelessly tossed on the pavement. Let's protect our environment and our feet: Vote yes on Ballot Measure 37.

Darshan Schmitz
Eugene

Support Bottle Bill

One of the greatest success stories of Oregon's effort to preserve our state's natural beauty has been the bottle bill. This pioneering law keeps over 1 billion beer and soda containers a year from littering our roadsides and open spaces, while conserving resources and promoting an ethic of stewardship. The savings to taxpayers in reduced litter cleanup costs has been enormous. All of this has been accomplished without a state bureaucracy to administer the system because it is self-financing and self-regulating.

Now, the proliferation of new non-carbonated, non-deposit drinks threatens to undermine this landmark piece of legislation. Over 100 million non-deposit bottles and cans are needlessly littered or landfilled every

year simply because they do not have a refund value. Cans and bottles which carry a 5 cent deposit are over three times more likely to be recycled than non-deposit containers.

To address this problem, Mrs. Tom McCall, the Oregon League of Women Voters and OSPiRG have sponsored an initiative to expand the bottle bill to include these new drinks. The proposal, already qualified for the November ballot, is a logical extension of the original bottle bill and will ensure that our state continues to be a national leader in litter prevention and recycling. For these reasons, the initiative deserves the support of all Oregonians. I urge my fellow citizens to pass this measure in order to keep Oregon clean and green for generations to come.

Onjole Trudell
Eugene

Glass a hazard

It has come to my attention that there is a new bottle bill on the ballot in November. It is Ballot Measure 37 and extends the existing bottle bill to all non-carbonated products such as Snapple, etc. As a student, my bicycle is my main mode of transportation. Often times, on my way to school or work, I notice broken Snapple bottles on the side of the road. Not only are these bottles unsightly, but to me and other cyclists they are also dangerous and costly (the average price of a new tube and tire is about \$30). I am positive that putting a nickel deposit on these products would ensure their being recycled and keep them off our streets and bike paths. To this end, I would urge all to vote "yes" on Ballot Measure 37 in November.

Karl Shelton
Eugene

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