



## **Alcoholic Beverage Container (ABC) Recycling Bill - S.461** *Introduced by Sen. Ray Cleary and referred to the House Agriculture Committee*



### **What does the ABC Recycling Bill do?**

- Establishes a statewide program to provide a sustainable stream of recyclable material for industry growth and job creation.
- Calls for establishments that have a permit for on-site consumption of alcohol to implement a recycling program in the next two years for plastic, corrugated cardboard, aluminum and glass.
- Outlines model recycling plan for DHEC and permit holders. The Department of Revenue will annually perform random audits of recycling plans to determine compliance.
- Provides a 10% discount on permit applications or renewals for 8 years if there is a recycling plan that includes glass. The permit cannot be revoked for failure to comply.
- Provides exemptions for establishments if recycling is not “financially feasible,” whose recycling costs would be greater than 14% of their solid waste disposal fees. Establishments providing evidence of a lack of access to glass recyclers are exempt.

### **The Numbers- Recycling means Jobs:**

In 2009 the recycling industry **created 1,354 new jobs**.

Recycling equals a **\$52 million dollar** opportunity for this state, annually.

South Carolina has 7 material recycling facilities and over 300 collectors, brokers, processors and manufacturers across the state **employing approximately 15,600 people**.

A 2010 Clemson University study projects recycling industry growth at 12% annually producing 37,000 direct and indirect jobs in five years.

Recycling in South Carolina is decreasing; today **we recycle only 22%** of our solid waste, far below the state goal of 35%.

In 2009 an estimated **400,000 tons** of recyclable material went into South Carolina's **landfills**.

Recoverable material going to landfills **costs taxpayers \$31 million** in disposal costs and decreases revenue opportunities for the state, counties and municipalities.

***S.461 passed the Senate in a 31-9 vote and has been referred to the House Agriculture Committee.***

#### **Sources:**

-Clemson University Jim Self Center for the Future; *Recycling Cluster Strategic Plan – 2010*

-Southeastern Recycling Development Council; *2010 Study to map demand of recycled feedstock in the Southeast US*

-South Carolina Solid Waste Management Annual Report for Fiscal 2009