

2017 AMENDMENTS TO THE SMALL CONTAINERS OF AUTOMOTIVE REFRIGERANT REGULATION



June 2, 2017

Cal/EPA Headquarters

1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Background of Original Regulation

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- Measure to reduce R-134a refrigerant emissions from do-it-yourself automotive AC servicing
- Adopted by the Board in January 2009 as a Discrete Early Action Measure
- Became effective on January 1, 2010

Regulatory Requirements

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- Self-sealing valve on all containers
- Deposit and recycling programs
- Consumer education program
- Product certification and labeling requirements
- Annual reporting of container sales and returns

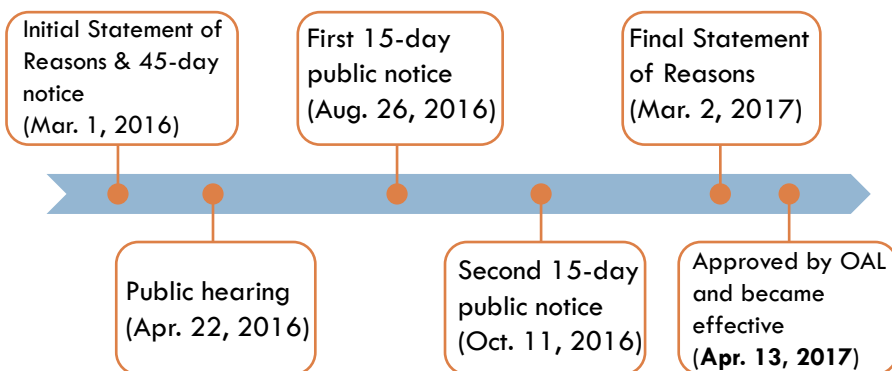
Goals of the 2017 Amendments

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- Further reduce GHG emissions
- Maximize the container return rate
- Ensure the unclaimed deposits are used for the benefits of consumers and the environment
- Expand the scope of how the unclaimed deposits are spent

Process of Amendments

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The Approved Amendments

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- ❑ Details to the requirements for retailer to transfer unclaimed consumer deposits to manufacturers
- ❑ New requirements of annual reports
- ❑ Expanded scope for spending the unclaimed deposits
- ❑ Elimination of the deposit adjustment provision
- ❑ New can labeling requirements

Major Amendments for Retailers

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- Container deposit fixed at \$10



- New report requirement
 - ▣ Included in the annual report the amount of deposits collected, unclaimed and transferred (due **March 1**)



- Transfer of unclaimed deposits
 - ▣ All unclaimed deposits collected during the preceding year must be transferred annually to manufacturer or its designee (due **April 1**)
 - ▣ For the year 2017, the period covered is **April 13 – December 31**

Major Amendments for Manufacturers/Designees

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- Expanded scope of enhanced education programs
 - ▣ Improvement of container and deposit return rate
 - ▣ Benefits on low-income communities and consumers that purchase small containers
 - ▣ Programs, projects, and measures reducing greenhouse gas emissions, approved by ARB
 - ▣ Examples include improved recycling/disposal of old refrigerants, and research, evaluation and promotion of low-GWP refrigerants

Major Amendments for Manufacturers/Designees

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- New requirements of annual reports
 - Report I: expending plan of Enhanced Education Program for the next year (due **May 1**, starting **2018**)
 - Report II: expenditure report
 - Amount of deposits transferred from retailers
 - Amount of deposits collected from retailers/distributors
 - Accounting and description of expenditure on Enhanced Education Programs in the previous year (due **May 1**, starting **2019**)

Major Amendments for Manufacturers

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- Certification requirements
 - Label to include “Do not vent” in English and Spanish
 - Description of Enhanced Education Program moved from certification to annual report
- Exempt period for modified labels
 - Containers packaged/manufactured for sale in CA during **Apr 13 - Dec 31, 2017** are exempt from the new labeling requirements

Proposed Actions

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- Working group for the management and spending of deposits
- Improvements/alternatives to deposit and recycling program
- In concert with national program adopted by U.S. EPA

Additional Information

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The Small Can Regulation Website

<https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/hfc-mac/hfcdiy/hfcdiy.htm>

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California Environmental Protection Agency

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