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# Coastal Point

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FREE

## State's 'bottle bill' rescued by veto

By **Monica Fleming**  
Staff Reporter

House Bill 201, which would have repealed Delaware's "bottle bill" has been vetoed by Gov. Jack Markell.

"Delaware is quickly earning a reputation as a leader in environmental issues like alternative energy and climate prosperity, in part, because we recognize the connection between the health of our economy and the health of our environment," Markell said in announcing the veto this week.

"This bill, as written, without additional consumer protections or a plan to improve our recycling rate, does not move us forward. I am hopeful that by working cooperatively with many interested participants, we can, in fact, move forward."

The Bottle Bill, enacted in 1982, places a 5-cent refund value on glass beverage bottles that are returned. The purpose of the bill was to reduce littering by encouraging the return, reuse and recycling of beverage bottles, and to reduce utilization of landfills.

State Rep. John J. Viola, who sponsored House Bill 201, said that, in an age of single-stream curbside recycling, the 25-year-old bottle bill had outlived its usefulness.

"I spoke to distributors, stores, residents and others and found that the deposit was not effective at improving recycling. None of the three surrounding states have a bottle bill, and their recycling rate is higher than ours," said Viola, D-Newark.

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## OV delays decision on building renovations

By **Monica Fleming**  
Staff Reporter

After much discussion of the possible renovation of the upstairs restrooms in the Wallace Melson Public Safety and Administration Building, the Ocean View Town Council decided this week to postpone any decisions on spending money until next year's budget process is complete.

Although the idea of having restrooms for administrative staff and the public was raised during planning of the building, it was ultimately scrapped, and what was built in the Melson building – at the time, only a public safety facility – was a restroom/locker/shower room combination for public safety staff. Town administrative offices have since moved into the building's second floor, creating more need for sepa-

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## York merges with Ocean Atlantic



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**Vickie York, seated, receives a bouquet of flowers in appreciation from Amanda Ryan of Ocean Atlantic Sotheby's International Realty during a launch party for their merger on Wednesday, July 22.**

By **Monica Fleming**  
Staff Reporter

Vickie York at the Beach Realty of Bethany Beach announced this week that they have merged with Ocean Atlantic Sotheby's International Realty of Rehoboth Beach, Del., to become a part of the Sotheby's International Realty luxury real estate network.

While Ocean Atlantic Sotheby's International Realty purchased the Bethany Beach office of Vickie York at the Beach Realty, York will continue to play a key role in the business, she said this week. Owned and managed by York, the office will merge into Ocean Atlantic Agency's current operations and do business as Ocean Atlantic Sotheby's International Realty, leaving the company with a strong presence in the Rehoboth and Bethany Resort areas, representatives said.

"They were looking to get a presence in the Bethany Beach area," explained York. "And I was looking to simplify my life and step away from the management aspect of it, and get back to listings and sales."

"And Justin has such an energy about him, I'm very excited," York added of Justin Healy, broker/owner of Ocean Atlantic Sotheby's International Realty in Rehoboth Beach, who said he is equally excited about the new partnership.

"Vickie not only has built a great brand and business but has also built great relationships in the community. The community is

lucky to have a person like her in it," he said. "People really talk nicely behind Vicki's back," he added, laughing.

Philip A. White, senior vice president and chief operating officer of Sotheby's International Realty Affiliates, explained to a room full of agents on Wednesday the benefits of name recognition with a company like Sotheby's International Realty. The company, originally started as an auction house in 1744, got into international realty in 1976.

It is this unique relationship between art and real estate allows the Sotheby's name to exude luxury, White said. "We say we had been selling great things on the walls. We decided to sell the walls also."

The Sotheby's International Realty network currently has more than 9,500 sales associates located in more than 485 offices in the United States, and in 32 other countries and territories. Ocean Atlantic Sotheby's International Realty listings will be marketed on the sothebysrealty.com global Web site.

In addition to more referral opportunities and widened exposure generated from these sources, the White said the firm will benefit from an association with the Sotheby's auction house and worldwide Sotheby's International Realty marketing programs.

For additional information on Ocean Atlantic Sotheby's International Realty Bethany location, call (302) 539-1033, visit [www.oasothebysrealty.com](http://www.oasothebysrealty.com) or stop by the office at 778 Garfield Parkway.