

Dear Senators,

The rate of recycling for plastic bottles in Victoria is too low. Only a proportion are being recycled; the rest are merely thrown out, ending up in landfills and littering roads, parks and waterways.

A deposit for returning these bottles is an easy way to help protect the environment.

Recycled bottles can easily be used to make carpets, clothing, car parts and new bottles. Most water bottles are made with a non-renewable resource called polyethylene terephthalate -- PET. When PET bottles are recycled, millions of gallons of oil and natural gas that would otherwise be used producing new bottles can be saved.

Many people need the added incentive of a deposit to motivate them to recycle these empty bottles. A deposit on plastic bottles would decrease waste in landfills, reduce pollution, and prevent the emission of greenhouse gases.

We need legislation in Victoria so there is a 10c deposit on every drink container. The Bill introduced by the Greens is good, responsible, legislation.

It should be passed.

Thank-you.

Fiona Armstrong