

Please support a 10c returnable deposit on all disposable drink containers in Victoria. This would lift recycling rates from 49% to 83%, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, eliminate 12-15% of all litter and offer councils and community groups a valuable new source of income.

The legislation will give Victoria a similar - but more comprehensive - system of recycling to highly successful South Australian model.

People can choose whether to return their empty container to a nearby depot, or donate it to their local council via the existing kerbside recycling system. Community groups, scout groups and sport clubs can raise funds by collecting empties and returning them for the deposit. Or they could even run a depot at a profit.

Depots can be as small as a "reverse vending machine" (put in an empty container, collect 10c), so it will be possible to have a depot in every community.

This is a great idea with numerous benefits to Victorian and as far as I can see no negative impacts. A plan like this should have been introduced decades ago.

It is good for the people and the planet.

Michael Beasley