**Subject:** Support for a national Container Deposit Scheme (CDS)

Support for a national Container Deposit Scheme (CDS)

I wish to support a a national Container Deposit Scheme. I agree with the arguments put forward by Scott Ludlam, Australian Greens Senator for Western Australia (see below).

I would add a few points of my own.

1.  I am old enough to remember when there was a refundable deposit in NSW on some containers (notably soft drink bottles). This provided extra pocket money for young people who would collect containers and return them for the refund of the deposit. That seemed to work well and was a good idea.

2.  If, as Scott Ludlam argues, "a National Container Deposit Scheme will provide a system for better waste management for other goods, such as e-waste and batteries", this has to be an important point in its favour. The dumping of e-waste and batteries (typically left on someone else's nature strip for the local council to pick up and send to land fill) is a huge environmental problem

3.  We should consider advantages of the psychological & attitudinal changes that will be occur due to a National Container Deposit Scheme. The best way to change attitudes (e.g. towards littering, towards waste, towards recycling) is to change behaviour. The CDS will change behaviour, and will change attitudes for the better.

Kind regards,

David Brigden BA MA

(Registered Psychologist)

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·         Thanks to a container deposit scheme that has been operating successfully for over 30 years, South Australians currently recycle more than 80 per cent of their recyclable containers seeing the virtual disappearance of container litter.

·         New data shows the national the recycling rate of beverage containers is about 40% - down from the 48% claimed in the Packaging Regulatory Impact Statement. It’s the biggest problem in packaging.

·         The failure to do a financial analysis that reveals the financial impacts on industry and consumers, when previous research has shown CDS will cost half a cent a container.

·         The failure of the RIS to include the financial benefits of more jobs and extra non-container materials going to CDS drop-off centres.

·         The RIS treats theoretical industry options such as more bins and advertising as having the same validity as proven schemes such as a CDS.  A major problem also found by ABARE in its peer review of the RIS.

·         CDS is the only way to quickly and sustainably remove an extra 4 billion beverage containers a year from the litter and landfill streams and build a network of recycling depots around Australia.

·         The best container recycling system in the world will only cost half a cent a container and environment ministers should stop doing studies and implement it.

·         Every day the Commonwealth delays a national container deposits system another 9 million recyclable beverage containers go into landfill.

·         A National Container Deposit Scheme will double the recycling rate, clean up the litter, create jobs and reduce pollution and provide a system for better waste management for other goods, such as e-waste and batteries.