Subject: National container recycling

To whom it may concern,

Please introduce a nationwide container recycling system to Australia. I came to this great country from Germany 4 years ago and seriously could not believe how far back Australia was in terms of recycling and landfill. Does no one in this country understand the price of waste?

I am 29 years old and have seen the change in my home country from one bin fits all to recycling (and that includes at home recycling of every plastic bag and tiny piece of aluminium foil, not the half hearted wannabe recycling here) to a full national container recycling scheme.

Every can, PET bottle, soft drink container etc. that is not re-usable (yes, every beer bottle is re-usable) has an added price of 25 Euro cents (what's that, about 33 Australian cents?). When used, the container is brought to ANY store that sells drinks, the customer puts the bottles in a machine that scans the bottle, counts and crushes them and at the end spits out a receipt that can be brought to the cashier to get the money or to deduct from the shopping. People collect their bottles and usually get about 5-10 Euros out.

Since this scheme was introduced in 2002, more or less all cans have disappeared from the German market (and German forests) and were replaced by Coke and co for PET bottles which are much easier to replace.

Please consider the real cost of any container scheme, way to many resources disappear into Australian landfill every day, taking up valuable potential real estate land and wasting this great country for our future generations.

Thank you for considering this email.

Kind regards,

Caroline Ryan