Dear Sir/Madam,

I live in Yarra Junction, a small town to the east of Melbourne. I have no car and walk or bus into Yarra Junction two or three times a week.

I regularly pick up drink containers on my 25 minute walk from my home into town to do my shopping. I bin them at the first available bin in Yarra Junction. One day, having "cleared" the roadside of bottles the previous week, I decided to count the number of containers I picked up on my way into the town. I only collected metal ones as there were only two usable plastic bags on the roadside. Though it was only a week since my last collection, I picked up **20** (twenty) aluminium or tin drink containers on that two kilometer stretch. They were either on the grass verge or in the storm drain on my side of the road. It had not rained, so those in the storm drain would have to have been littered from passing cars because there are only a handful of people like me who walk along the roadside.

Another eyesore is the surrounds of the bus stops. Most of the litter lying around is drink containers. Sometimes a thoughtful person has tied a plastic bag to the bus stop bench at the stop opposite my road end for empties to be put in. I have taken a few of these bags back home to my garbage bin, as well as picking up the bottles and cans around that stop. Where there are bins provided this happens much less but some drink containers don't make it to the bin even there.

I am only talking about one two-kilometer stretch of road. There is other rubbish around as well, yet the major problem is the drink containers.

When I remark on it to others they say of the litterers "They don't care." And on looking closer at the situation, I feel that for a variety of reasons they have not been shown care and respect and so are unable to care for themselves, for others or for the environment, which is there for all of us.

Presumably you have made it to government to help make this State of ours a better place for all of us. If there is one issue that would do that simply and easily, this would be it.

What bringing in the 10c deposit in will do

1. Engender a sense of responsiblity (through offering a carrot of 10c) to return containers
2. Clean up the environment for all of us
3. Save a whole lot of the unrecyclable goods we have put out for recycling to be recycled
4. Create revenue for government and for other bodies
5. Give the feel that the government actually does want to listen to us - the people you are representing
6. Provide a stress-free environment both in town and country whether we are at work or relaxing
7. Allow us to see the beauty
8. Cleanliness will allow for clearer thinking about what is important in life - government has to look at the bigger picture, what is the most important to us as part of this universe. Nature is not just a place to go to for a breather: it is our life source, where we get our air to breathe, our food to eat, our inspiration.
9. Putting Nature first with the 10c deposit will engender all kinds of snowballing benefits that can only be dreamed of at present.
10. It will engender goodwill for you in the Senate.

So what's so difficult about passing a bill on something each one of us will derive great benefits from? Do yourself a favour and we will all benefit. Smiles all round.

Respectfully,
Catherine Warner