

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts

Re: Inquiry into the Environment Protection (Beverage Container Deposit and Recovery Scheme) Bill 2009

Dear Madam/Sir

I would like to make a submission to the inquiry into the Environment Protection Bill (10 cent deposit on drink containers).

My submission is very brief. I would like to point out that I spent the first 25 years of my life in South Australia, where a deposit system existed for drinks containers. In my view the system worked brilliantly. It was rare to find bottles and cans littering the streets and landscapes. Children were in the habit of collecting bottles and cans to earn some pocket money. Compare this to Victoria where I have spent the last 27 years. Where ever I walk, whether on a sidewalk or in a park, the number of drinks containers (mostly beer bottles) that I see is mind boggling. We seem to also spend enormous effort organising volunteers or paying council workers to clean up the mess. To suggest (as it has been in Victoria) that a system of deposits on drinks containers is "not cost effective" is ridiculous.

While I am but a very small voice in the wilderness, on this occasion I would like my voice heard.

Thank you for listening!

Regards
(Mr) Kim Sampson