



FAMILY FIRST



Steve Fielding **Family First** Senator for Victoria

MEDIA RELEASE

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PM SHOULD ANNOUNCE 'CASH FOR TRASH' RECYCLING SCHEME ON CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

**Family First to introduce legislation for a
national “cash-for-trash” recycling scheme**

Family First will introduce federal legislation for a new uniform container deposit scheme nationally. Clean Up Australia and the Boomerang Alliance (a coalition of most environment groups and local councils in Australia) have backed Family First’s move.

“Prime Minister Kevin Rudd should announce a federal plan to improve recycling with a deposit scheme for bottles and other recyclable material similar to South Australia's today for Clean Up Australia Day,” said Senator Fielding.

“Last Friday I collected five bags of bottles and other recyclable material from along the Yarra River in under an hour. With a deposit scheme in place, this rubbish would be recycled rather than end up as rubbish polluting our waterways. South Australia has proven container deposit schemes work as it recycles 85% of drink containers, while other states are bogged down in litter averaging only 38%.

“Family First is taking the initiative as the state Governments seem to be dragging their feet on litter. We will be introducing federal legislation this month”

A national container deposit scheme would:

- Save 300,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases a year;
- Lift drink container recycling from 38% to 85%;
- Recycle an extra half a million tonnes of waste every year;
- Reduce litter by 25%;
- Save the average family \$30 every year on kerbside recycling;
- Create more than 2000 new jobs;
- Allow community and sporting groups and children to earn money (eg. Scouts in South Australia earn \$7 million from container recycling).

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