



FAMILY FIRST



Steve Fielding **Family First** Senator for Victoria

MEDIA RELEASE

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SENATE INQUIRY INTO FAMILY FIRST'S DRINK CONTAINER RECYCLING BILL

Let's turn "trash into cash"



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The Senate has today agreed to refer Family First's drink container recycling laws to a Senate committee for inquiry.

"Family First's proposed laws would establish a national drink container recycling scheme, similar to the one operating in South Australia for the past 30 years," Family First leader Steve Fielding said today.

"The drink container recycling scheme would match the South Australian scheme where there is a 5 cent (soon to be 10 cents) container deposit that is redeemed when the container is returned for recycling.

Family First's *Drink Container Recycling Bill 2008* has been referred to the Senate Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee for report by August 2008.

“South Australia is leading the way with container recycling at 85% while the other states are at an appalling recycling rate of 38%,” Senator Fielding said. “A national container deposit scheme makes sense – it’s a big win for the environment and a big win for the community.”

A national container deposit scheme would:

- 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 kids to earn money (eg. Scouts in South Australia earn \$7 million from container recycling).

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