



FAMILY FIRST



Steve Fielding **Family First** Senator for Victoria

MEDIA RELEASE

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IS LABOR FAIR DINKUM ABOUT CUTTING GREENHOUSE GASES?

Today, a Senate inquiry will start to hear evidence on Family First's plan for a national drink container recycling scheme, similar to the 5 cents scheme that has been operating in South Australia for over 30 years.

"This week will be a real test to see if Labor are fair dinkum about cutting greenhouse gases," Family First leader Steve Fielding said today.

"It's crazy that Labor can say they want to cut greenhouse gases but refuse to back a simple, proven and practical national drink container recycling scheme.

"The Government of South Australia, in its submission to the inquiry, reveals the following environmental savings would flow as a result of setting up a national container recycling scheme:

- Reduced emissions of greenhouse gases of up to 540,000 tonnes
- Reduced water use by up to 24.4 gigalitres
- Reduced energy use of up to 8.4 petajoules."

The Senate inquiry into Family First's *Drink Container Recycling Bill* will hold its first hearing in Adelaide today, then Melbourne on Wednesday, Sydney on Thursday and Canberra on Friday.

"It is disgraceful that the rest of Australia allows bottles to litter our streets and creeks, when we could turn that trash into cash. By simply having say a 5 cent deposit on containers we could lift our container recycling rate to over 80%," Senator Fielding said.

"South Australia is leading the way with container recycling at around 80% while other states are at an appalling recycling rate of 38%.

"A national container deposit scheme makes sense – it's a big win for the environment and a big win for the community."

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