

Submission re the proposed Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Bill 2017

Author: Steve Dennis

Address: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Ph: [REDACTED]

I fully support the intention of this Bill.

I find that rural roadsides are littered continually by road users who see no value in recycling empty containers, especially plastic drink bottles, aluminium cans and glass bottles, as well as single use plastic bags.

In conversation with a lady whose family ran a refund depot in Victoria in the 90's, the biggest problem they had was handling the amount of cash and security, as they were robbed several times.

My suggestion would be to have a card system, similar to the public transport systems in capital cities.

The concept of having manufacturers take stewardship of this process is critical – they are currently not taking any responsibility for the end result of the single use package they are selling.

Perhaps the manufacturers could have cards which buyers of their product present to the retail outlet or recycle facility when they return the empty cleaned container, and the retail outlet then gives the customer a credit on the card, or a credit on the next purchase. The cardholder can then track their refund history on a website which is maintained by the manufacturer of the product.

The majority of people would have no issues with having their own reusable shopping bags, and these could be developed by advertising agencies to have logos on them, like State of Origin, on cotton or silk reusable shopping bags which could encourage some people to take pride in having their reusable shopping bags. The major sporting codes could be convinced to promote this process and hence help get the message to the end users.

Our family has been using reusable shopping bags for several years, and we have a supply of bags in each car.

Regards

Steve Dennis

3rd July 2017

