

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT BILL

24 July, 2008

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 22 July 2008. Page 3905.)

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (16:16): I, too, rise briefly to support this bill. I think it shows absolute common sense and I, too, endorse what the legislators did 30 years ago. It was visionary and they took a bit of flak. They were getting on with the job in introducing container deposit legislation with the 5¢ scheme. As time goes on and if you look at it in real terms, I think the figure could possibly have been more than 10¢. It is pleasing to note that scout groups, sporting groups and even individuals for charitable organisations have raised quite a substantial amount of money through having containers that they can recycle. I endorse the comments of other members in this place today. When you travel around interstate, you notice the state of the roads and the disgrace that they are in as a result of discarded containers. We cannot get away from food packaging but containers are just thrown out of windows without any care in the world.

I am one of those people at fault. I get home from a week in this place and, basically, I have to empty out the water and soft drink containers just to clean up the car, but I know I am doing my bit for the state and the country. It is interesting in the country when you live in a place like Coomandook, as I do. We usually collect a tandem trailer load of cans and bottles—milk bottles, wine bottles and whatever is around—and put them in wool packs. I had an embarrassing moment one day when I had not tied them in properly, and obviously milk cartons do not weigh much. When you are driving along and you see a wool pack just float out the top of your trailer when you are on the Dukes Highway, it is a little embarrassing. Mind you, I retrieved it and got on with the job. I never did it again.

Mr Griffiths: I would have thought you'd have tied a knot.

Mr PEDERICK: No, I thought I could get away without putting a rope on it because I had it jammed in but it did not work. When you are in the country it is pleasing to see that people who live in the outlying areas bring in their trailers, utes and sometimes their trucks with a few years' supply on board of empties, and they come into the recycling depots. I note that industry works with the depots and will have to help fund this change. Looking back, years ago now, the beer industry promoted echoes. I cannot remember how long it is since that name disappeared.

Mr Bignell: Kero still uses it.

Mr PEDERICK: Kero still uses 'echoes', okay. Certainly, it is common-sense legislation and, along with the rest of the Liberal Party, I think that it is fantastic and that it should move forward as quickly as possible.