



Greg Aplin MP
Member for Albury

MEDIA RELEASE

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ASSISTANCE FOR BORDER BUSINESSES IMPACTED BY CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME

Member for Albury Greg Aplin today announced the NSW Government would provide targeted financial assistance to small independent NSW retailers near the Southern border who have been impacted by the NSW Container Deposit Scheme (CDS).

A review undertaken by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) found that the introduction of the CDS has had a unique impact on some independent retailers located near the NSW/Victorian border.

“This assistance will mean that identified border businesses will have the financial support and business advice they need to adjust to the introduction of the CDS,” Mr Aplin said.

“The CDS is showing great results for the environment but it’s clear there have been consequences for some businesses which I am now confident we can address,” he said.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW and Small Business, John Barilaro, said he was pleased to see this support for those family-owned, regionally-based businesses who have been affected by this scheme.

“It is important that we have been able to deliver relief so we can keep these businesses competitive and sustainable under the CDS,” Mr Barilaro said.

“IPART will work with individual businesses to make sure they get financial support and Business Connect will provide tailored businesses advice,” he said.

Environment Minister Gabrielle Upton said more than 780 million containers – enough to circle the globe three times – have been recycled in the last six months.

“The container deposit scheme has processed an average of just over two million containers each day over the past six months, with peaks of over three million a day.

“Across the more than 610 collection points, aluminum cans top the containers returned at 42 per cent followed by glass bottles (29 per cent) and plastic bottles (27 per cent).”

Eligible businesses have been identified by IPART as small to medium independently owned and operated NSW retailers near the Victorian border that take a significant proportion of total sales from multi-pack beverages (more than six containers).

IPART will invite eligible businesses to apply for financial assistance and applications will be independently assessed.

Support will cover transitional costs for the first 12 months of the scheme, which commenced in December 2017.

The ACT will commence a container deposit scheme on 30 June 2018 with Queensland expected to implement a scheme at the end of 2018. Victoria has not yet committed to a container deposit scheme.

For more information please visit <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/recycling-and-reuse/return-and-earn>

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