



MEDIA RELEASE

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Speculation about possible Container Deposit Scheme for NSW

AN alliance of Australia's top business associations notes the article in today's The Sun Herald titled "Baird to Impose Recycling Regime on Drinks Makers".

The industry alliance's spokesperson, Gary Dawson of the Australian Food and Grocery Council, said industry remained committed to working with the NSW Government to develop the most effective and efficient way to reduce litter and improve recycling.

"There is no simple solution and it requires a consultative process to develop tailored programs," AFGC CEO Mr Dawson said.

"Industry has extensive experience in this area across many markets globally and across many different regimes.

"This experience in conjunction with the findings of the COAG Report made public in December 2014 should prove invaluable to the Governments decision making process.

"The COAG Report was commissioned by the Federal Government and other State Governments including NSW, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania.

"The COAG report is based on four years of exhaustive analysis of the costs and benefits of policy options including CDL and is regarded as the most independent and reliable advice on this matter available.

"The COAG Report concluded that CDL - including reverse vending machine schemes - are many times more expensive than industry's alternative, which was endorsed as the preferred approach.

"Given the NSW Government led the COAG process it should have full confidence in its conclusions."

Mr Dawson said industry looked forward to providing further detail on its alternative scheme in coming weeks, as requested by the NSW government and remains committed to working collaboratively, co-operatively and in good faith throughout the negotiation process outlined by the Baird Government.

"Industry continues to stand behind its scheme which not only meets the NSW Government's environmental targets at a lower cost than a CDS, but also ensures that consumers are not unnecessarily penalised and jobs are not unnecessarily put at risk," he said.

More information: Adam Connolly 0417 170 084