



Policy and Business Branch  
Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment  
GPO Box 1550  
Hobart TAS 7001

12 March 2021

Dear Sir or Madam,

*Charitable Recycling Australia* welcomes the Tasmanian Government's Waste and Resource Recovery Bill 2021 and applauds its thoroughness in consulting key stakeholders.

This is a major, innovative piece of reform that is vital for Tasmania, and we particularly want to acknowledge the Government's practical wisdom in also seeking to address or mitigate any unintended consequences, that invariably accompany any major reform agenda.

Over and above the many productive, collaborative and pro-active discussions the Government has invited *Charitable Recycling Australia* to contribute to the reform agenda, we would also like to acknowledge the following:

- *Charitable Recycling Australia* welcomes the Government's acknowledgement of the likely impacts on the charitable sector, and the mitigating factors being developed to ensure charities are able to work at full capacity to continue providing social, environmental and economic benefit to Tasmanians.
- We welcome the waste levy rebate arrangements being proposed, that will protect charities from both a potential increase in dumping and/or new cost imposts. This will ensure that charitable income is maximised towards both mission goals and waste diversion, similar to arrangement across all other state jurisdictions.
- Given that history demonstrates that the introduction of new waste levies inevitably leads to an increase in dumping, we would like to recommend new initiatives around anti-dumping, including charities. *Charitable Recycling Australia* (formerly NACRO has a 3-point plan to address illegal dumping) and we would be pleased to collaborate with the Government on relevant interventions:
  - <https://www.charitablerecycling.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Policy-Position-Government-Investment.pdf>



- In all discussions around illegal dumping, the need for positive consumer education comes up again and again as the most effective intervention. Education targets donors who are 'Unintentional Dumpers' and don't realise that the products or the ways they are donating actually hurt charities instead of helping them. Research shows that this audience makes up 50% of all donors, which means they can be influenced by education because they have the right intentions.
- *Charitable Recycling Australia* would like to recommend funding made available for Repair Cafes, or similar initiatives on repair or repurposing to target the 'low hanging fruit' of household products that currently go to landfill but are 'almost' usable as a means of diverting waste from landfill. Enabling small repairs to be made to these items could be the difference between them going to waste or recovered as a resource. Scaling repair operations to make them commercially viable will see a reduction to landfill, and the creation of new economic opportunities.

Once again, we applaud and thank the Tasmanian Government and look forward to working with you on protecting Tasmania's environment while also helping the most vulnerable Tasmanians through programs for social good and contributing economically to the state.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Omer", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

OMER SOKER  
Chief Executive Officer