

Recycling

We had a bill on the floor last week, SB123. It involved digital labeling of packaging for recycling purposes. The idea was to put QR codes or the equivalent on packaging so people can bring up information on how to recycle it with their smartphones.

I invite you to imagine how this goes.

Smartphones are very useful. They have also become a disease. Everywhere you look people are bent over their phones. They walk across parking lots staring at their phones. They go out to restaurants and stare at their phones instead of talking with each other.

We even have laws trying to keep the smart phones from killing us by prohibiting drivers from staring at them instead of the road ahead!

So we now want people walking across parking lots, staring at their phones, while pointing the phones at trash held in their other hand. It is an interesting picture and sounds a bit dangerous.

But recycling in general is a complete waste of time. Oregonians have better things to do than sort trash in different bins.

Some things like metals are worth recycling. Others should be simply incinerated. Machines can sort this out.

Landfills don't actually take up significant space, but they cause a waste of perfectly good garbage which can be incinerated for energy.

Perhaps if we got rid of recycle bins altogether we would reduce littering.

Why complicate trash disposal?