**From:** Leah Graf <leah.graf@gmail.com>   
**Sent:** Monday, 12 August 2019 12:02 PM  
**To:** RG - Black Economy <Blackeconomy@treasury.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Submission: Exposure Draft—Currency (Restrictions on the Use of Cash) Bill 2019

To Whom it May Concern,

I wish to VEHEMENTLY oppose the **Currency (Restrictions on the Use of Cash) Bill 2019** and any restrictions on people’s use of cash to make transactions. This is a violation of our freedom and right to use cash freely without interference from governments and banking institutions, who, let’s face it, don’t always have the individual’s best interests at heart. I am very concerned at this measure which forces people to use banking institutions to make transactions. I do not trust banks with my money! It is MY money not theirs and they continually erode our savings by making up fees and charges and taking our money without consent. We the people elect our Government, and therefore it is our needs that you should be serving, not the banking institutions. Our laws should protect our freedoms, not erode them. A law should be passed only when there is a threat to people’s life or liberty - and you have not demonstrated how this new legislation is going to protect either.

I am very concerned on the impact this will have if the Central Banks decide to introduce negative interest rates. It does not make good economic sense to impose them and yet the IMF have issued a paper in April recommending just that. I and most citizens of this country work hard for what little money we get, and we need policies that prevent our savings from being eroded by large banks. Instead of encouraging people to SPEND we should be encouraging them to SAVE their money for when they need it, or for retirement, or for some worthwhile investment such as a house or business venture. This makes good economic sense. This is what our economic policies should be encouraging.

I don’t trust the banks to keep my money safe in our current economic environment, and I will never accept that this Bill is a necessary step to prevent unlawful transactions.

Please instead step up your protection of the people of this country from the fraudsters that call us nearly every day trying to fleece us out of our hard-earned money, praying on the elderly and vulnerable. Australia is seen as a soft target and our Government needs to do more to protect its people.

Yours sincerely

Leah Graf