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Manager
Black Economy Division
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Parkes ACT 2600

11th August 2019

RE: Currency (Restrictions on the Use of Cash) Bill 2019

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Manager
Black Economy Division
Langton Cres
Parkes ACT 2600

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Dear Manager (Black Economy Division),

RE: Currency (Restrictions on the Use of Cash) Bill 2019

As young Australian who has come to the completion of my formal schooling and is about to embark on my career and forge a financial future for myself the proposed draft bill and instruments regarding the Restrictions on the Use of Cash (2019) are of great concern to me and many other Australians.

Having reviewed the information provided regarding what is colloquially known as the \$10,000 cash transaction limit legislation I am concerned the negative implication will severely outweigh any benefits of the legislation. My concerns are as follows:

1. Anti-competitive nature of the legislation.

Traditional (physical) cash serves not only as legal tender but as an addition of a store of value and method of payment outside the banking system. A transition to digital e-currency would be anti-competitive and force Australians to rely solely on our banking sector.

2. Exposure to experimental monetary policy especially negative interest rates.

Cash acts as an interest rate floor and protects Australians, especially those in retirement who rely on interest on their savings for day to day living expenses, from experimental monetary policy such as negative interest rates which will seek to erode savings. A ban on cash transaction (in effect banning holding cash and depreciating it as mentioned by the IMF) would leave Australians vulnerable to powers they have no control over. See the following for more information: <https://blogs.imf.org/2019/02/05/cashing-in-how-to-make-negative-interest-rates-work/>

3. Added stress and burden to the community

As mentioned prior due to the implications of points 1. and 2. many members of our society from all strata will be impacted by this legislation which will impact Australia's for many generations to come. I will also add an additional mention that such changes will encourage Australians with access to other financial markets (e.g dual citizenship holders) which provide them with better conditions will incentivise the offshoring of money earned in Australia abroad. Which counteracts the supposed intentions of this legislation and also deprive the Australian economy of circulating currency.

Thank you for considering my submission and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any need for additional information. It is every Australian's desire to be patriotic and we hope our government can help us by protecting all our interests not only those involved in institution banking and finance.

Yours sincerely,

Hasintha Attanayake

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