**From:** Robert Hendry <rhendry@bigpond.net.au>   
**Sent:** Sunday, 11 August 2019 10:46 AM  
**To:** RG - Black Economy <Blackeconomy@treasury.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Currency (Restriction on the use of cash) Bill 2019

**I view with great concern this proposed bill, which seems to be based on some illusionary statement of cost benefits**

**I also see this bill as an erosion of civil liberties and an assault to economic freedom in Australia.**

**The government has not provided any empirical evidence that the ban on cash will improve tax revenue or reduce the black economy.**

**How much additional tax revenue do the government think they will get  by reducing the black economy?**

**Where is the cost benefit analysis to back this bill. This must be a fundamental platform for any legislation.**

**The research I have undertake to find examples of where similar legislation has been introduced, showed that Sweden had introduced measures to reduce cash in their economy. It has had a negligible effect on the size of the black economy.**

**A more compelling argument against this bill can be made using the research of Henrich Schneider (2017) from Austria in his paper**

**“Restricting or Abolishing Cash: An Effective Instrument for Fighting the shadow Economy, crime and Terrorism”**

***“Cash reflects the fundamental relation between citizens or taxpayers and states authorities. Using cash means freedom, independence and personal fulfilment for a citizens who doesn’t want a state intervention when using cash. The “voices” calling for the limitation or abolishment of cash argue that tighter and more comprehensive state control over individuals financial flows and funds will effectively fight crime, shadow economy and terrorism. But in my opinion we have weak empirical evidence”***

**and**

***“Cash has a minor influence on the shadow economy, crime and terrorism, but potentially has a major influence on civil liberties”***

**The government should be committed to evidence based policies, this bill does support such a commitment.**

**I can only conclude that this bill is more about forcing people into the banking system where their money can be sized by the banks via the “Bail in Laws” and/or have there funds subjected to negative interest rates.**

**I remain deeply concerned for all hard working Australian citizens**

**Regards**

**Rob Hendry**