**From:** Robert King <arking2594@gmail.com>   
**Sent:** Monday, 5 August 2019 6:27 PM  
**To:** RG - Black Economy <Blackeconomy@treasury.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Currency (restriction on use of cash) Bill 2019

To whom it may concern,

I take this opportunity to add my submission to the discussion on the above important topic.

Thank you for allowing me to add my voice in the very limited time you have made available to do so.  To release the relevant draft after business hours had closed on a Friday afternoon and invite submissions before 12th of August 2019 indicates to me that you are not really interested in public discussion on this extremely important subject.  If this were not the case this draft Bill would have been released in a much more transparent matter.

To describe the Currency (restriction on use of cash) Bill 2019 as anything other than stepping into uncharted waters would be an understatement.  It involves the taking away of freedoms and places burdens on everyday activity that has been unknown in the history of our nation.

By limiting the use of cash, at present the proposed amount is $10,000, but this can be changed at whim by regulation, you are forcing people into using the banking system.  That same banking system that was shown to be anything other than squeaky clean in the recent Royal Commission.  The banking system is all privately owned for profit and has fees on almost all transactions which add to the cost of everything.  To force people into using a private enterprise system goes against freedom of association and the corollary freedom of disassociation.  Why should anyone be forced to support any business that they have no desire to?

I am offended by the inference that because I may  choose to use cash rather than anther medium to pay that I am somehow involved in money laundering or tax evasion or any other illegal activity.   There has been no evidence offered that tax evasion or black market activity is widespread.  If this were the case then there would be reports of court proceedings made public.  In any case the introduction of a GST in 2001 was supposed to clamp down on such practises.

How will this law be enforced?  If it is by somehow monitoring electronic transactions then surely this could be done at the present time without the imposition of this proposed legislation.  If some other means are to be employed, such as a pimp on every corner then that would put Australia in the league of such enlightened nations of North Korea, Myanmar and Nazi Germany, the latter of which many paid  the supreme sacrifice to defeat.

Section two of the proposed bit is not even included in the draft.  Is this because Treasury is not game to tell us what is propose or is it being made up un the run?

Given  the exemption are defined in a legislative instrument and not in an Act of Parliament, this gives the government via the assistant treasurer a lot of flexibility to remove the exemptions without much opposition.  This could be at the whim of the treasurer with no public airing.

If tax avoidance, money laundering , financing of terrorism and black market activities  are wide spread then there are many laws already n the statute books that could be used to prosecute and defeat those involved.

I respectfully submit this for your consideration.

Robert King

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