**From:** Sabrina Muscat <sabrinamuscat@me.com>   
**Sent:** Monday, 12 August 2019 8:16 PM  
**To:** RG - Black Economy <Blackeconomy@treasury.gov.au>  
**Subject:** I strongly oppose the Currency (Restrictions on the Use of Cash) Bill 2019

Dear Manager,

I strongly oppose the Currency (Restrictions on the Use of Cash) Bill 2019 for the following reasons and demand the Australian Government does not allow this bill to pass:

1. It will marginalize elderly people and poor people who are used to paying for things in cash, and are deeply suspicious (with good reason) of electronic payment systems.
2. It will encourage people to spend frivolously, since paying for things on one’s smart phone is fast and easy. This will likely contribute to debt problems, gambling problems, and all sorts of irresponsible behavior. A student interviewed at the University of Gothenberg admitted that if she had a 500 krona note, she would think twice about spending it; electronic payment brought little to no psychological hesitation.
3. Holding physical currency (paper money or coin) doesn’t really cost the holder anything besides inflation. But digital currency in banks can get eroded very, very easily with fees, charges, and all the other games that banks like to play.
4. Are banks really willing and capable of handing all the millions and millions of tiny transactions that would happen every day? From my fifteen years’ of experience with dealing with banks, I’ve learned that the average bank dork can’t even organize a roll of toilet paper. It’s difficult to see how the average bank is going to be competent enough to handle all these transactions efficiently. They are going to charge everyone though the teeth for their learning curve. Just you wait.
5. Digital currency would be vulnerable to disruption by fraud or terrorist attacks.
6. Moving to digital currency might even speed up the demise of the AUD dollar as the world’s reserve currency. There are huge amounts of dollars in circulation abroad. It is possible that holders of dollars abroad would sell them quickly, as a reaction to the uncertain future of the electronic world.
7. I believe the public need to be consulted on such a huge move, there has only been such a short notice on what’s being proposed!
8. The draft bill, (apparently $10k and over), does not protect this figure from being lowered, eventually leading to a cashless society.
9. This is basically a move towards a cashless society which is very risky and goes against our basic rights on way to many levels.
10. How will we use cash on a day-to-day basis? I:e business and investments, in favour of making us use a bank or other financial institutions to pay and receive services. This will affect all Australians; from those wanting to sell a bed on Gumtree, to your relative  who mows your lawn for $15.
11. There will be huge privacy and security issues .
12. I want to raise my children up knowing what it is like to earn money, not digitise everything, they are not robots!

It is against our basic human rights to force us into a cashless society, which is what this bill sets a precedent for. I do not consent to this bill and I ask that the Australian Government strongly considers the implications for its citizens, including their own families, and rejects this bill.

Thank you,

Sabrina Muscat