

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

I submit my objections to the Exposure Draft as follows:

- **Part 2 – Offences, Division 2 is to be inserted at a later date.**

The Bill is incomplete, and thus cannot be properly considered or evaluated. This implies that the draft was rushed and leads to the question of why? Why was the draft released for public consultation before it was complete? I refer to the following statement taken from <https://www.treasury.gov.au/submission-guidelines> *In the interests of informed public debate, Treasury is committed to transparency in its processes and open access to information.* There can be no informed public debate if the Draft is incomplete. I suggest the Bill should not be introduced to Parliament in its current form, and should be available for further consultation once Division 2 is inserted.

- **Legislative Instruments specify details of the Bill.**

Exemptions are specified in the associated Instrument which means that these details can be changed without public consultation or parliamentary debate and examination. It is alarming that the exemptions can be removed at the whim of the Minister.

- **Imposing Cash Restrictions forces individuals to use the banking system.**

I have no confidence in the Australian banking system in light of the recent Royal Inquiry. This proposed Bill forces individuals to make transactions through and store their money in financial institutions, and impinges on the right to choose. The Bill may be designed to restrict criminal activity – with doubtful effect – but it severely restricts our civil liberties, and in my view, the benefit does not justify the cost.

The Currency (Restrictions on the Use of Cash) Bill 2019 should not be passed.

M Mackay