**From:** Peter Casasola <pjcas2@bigpond.com>   
**Sent:** Sunday, 11 August 2019 8:37 AM  
**To:** RG - Black Economy <Blackeconomy@treasury.gov.au>; 'Bill Drenth' <wilmax@internode.on.net>  
**Cc:** senator.antic@aph.gov.au; senator.abetz@aph.gov.au; senator.askew@aph.gov.au; senator.birmingham@aph.gov.au; senator.bragg@aph.gov.au; senator.brockman@aph.gov.au; senator.cash@aph.gov.au; senator.chandler@aph.gov.au; senator.colbeck@aph.gov.au; senator.cormann@aph.gov.au; senator.fawcett@aph.gov.au; senator.colbeck@aph.gov.au; senator.cormann@aph.gov.au; senator.davey@aph.gov.au; senator.duniam@aph.gov.au; senator.fawcett@aph.gov.au; senator.fierravanti-wells@aph.gov.au; senator.fifield@aph.gov.au; senator.hughes@aph.gov.au; senator.hume@aph.gov.au; senator.mcgrath@aph.gov.au; senator.matt.o'sullivan@aph.gov.au; foreign.minister@dfat.gov.au; senator.payne@aph.gov.au; senator.reynolds@aph.gov.au; senator.ryan@aph.gov.au; senator.seselja@aph.gov.au; senator.sinodinos@aph.gov.au; senator.stoker@aph.gov.au  
**Subject:** Proposed Cash transaction bans

To whom it may concern, thank you for your time

My name is Peter Casasola, and I have just learned about the proposal by the Australian Government to place a limit of $10000 on cash transactions, and the punishment under law for breaching this amount.

This , it appears to me, is yet another attempt to address a minor criminal element by attacking the freedoms of the vast majority of hard working Australians.

How does the proposal prevent , for instance, the use of money to buy huge amounts of drugs, guns or other illegal items?

The money for these items is generally collected in smaller amounts by a criminal element, given to another, more senior criminal element and disposed of by an existing and sophisticated network of very “legitimate..” private institutions, banks and the like, on a scale unimaginable to most of us .

The limit of simple cash transactions will , at best, limit the most minor criminal element in a minority of cases from using their money.

By way of example, the Governments method of limiting misuse of the amount paid to welfare recipients by placing limits on what the card they are issued with can be used for can be circumvented by taxi drivers!

The greatest concern in my local town, for instance, is illegal drug use and it’s terrible social consequences, and the people who are profiting from this trade have remained consistently unchecked, because of the nature of , and the scale of cash generated is already being dealt with by very clever criminal organisations. The real sources of the problem are remote and untouched by any local law enforcement, including, I would postulate, a limit on cash transactions.

The amounts we are talking about far exceed the $10000 limit in totality, and would already raise suspicion were they to be transacted through the banking system, which already has comprehensive reporting requirements. Obviously, then, the issue is NOT the limit of transaction amounts through legitimate trade by law abiding Australians, rather it is the successful laundering of illegal incomes by sophisticated criminal organisations.

As for the funding of Terrorist organisations, the failure of our (Australian) government and security organisations to address the obvious  and bizarre consequences of unbridled “political correctness “ doctrine are allowing radical elements, both religious and political, to flourish in our country. Surely increasing, rather than decreasing, the funding to ASIO and the Federal Enforcement agencies is a better method of catching the dangerous and criminal element at higher levels, therefore negating the use of measures to, at best, detect a minority of not very clever low level criminals.

Until the Government addresses the root cause of these issues, the simple limit of cash and other freedoms to the majority is just that, a limit on the freedoms that we Australians have been taking for granted a s a component of a forward thinking and free democratic society. I would relish the day that political decisions and  incomes were performance based, rather than ideologically motivated to preserve tenure. As with the management of the firearms legislation, the vast majority of legitimate users of cash will be subject to restrictions that will have little to no effect on the true causes of the problem of criminals in our society.

In summary, I totally oppose this proposed Act and it’s legislative outcomes, and I believe Parliament’s time would be better served in debating the implementation of truly appropriate punishment of serious crime, and the appropriate funding of existing , fundamentally and critically under resourced Government agencies like ASIO and Border Protection.

Thank you,

Regards

Peter Casasola.