

**From:**  
**To:** [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Social Security (Administration) Amendment (Income Management and Cashless Welfare) Bill 2019  
**Date:** Sunday, 24 February 2019 12:17:53 AM

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Dear Sir,

In 2011 I broke my neck in a vehicle accident and was paralyzed as the broken bones pressed against my spinal cord leaving me paralyzed and incapable to having normal motor skills, two months later I was able to walk again without much assistance but unfortunately unable to drive. Needless to say I lost my job and was stuck at home, as no one wanted to employ someone who had a broken neck, simply in fear of me being or getting disabled again as I suffer with Osteoarthritis.

Had it not been for financial support from centerlink I would have lost my rental too and would have had a hard time trying to recover and having me and my children destitute as I was divorced at the time. If I were to have gone onto the cashless welfare card the same thing would have applied and I would have been out on the street, neither would I have been able to buy vegetables from the neighborhood Gardner and as a single parent, neither would I have been able to purchase old school clothes from Sammy's for my children.

Thankfully I have been able to return to full time employment a year after the incident, but I fear we are letting many families down with this welfare card, as it would inhibit them to purchase vital resources for their children or food from a neighborhood gardener while being forced to buy only at the big shops at higher prices. As a current taxpayer I do not mind having people to receive their welfare payments in cash as otherwise restricting people like this is unnecessarily cruel.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

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Kind Regards