

16th July 2018.

Committee Secretary,
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs,
P.O. Box 6100,
Parliament House,
Canberra ACT. 2600.

Dear Sirs,

I fully support the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Cashless Debit Card Trial Expansion Bill 2018).

I have read the report where Ceduna Mayor Allan Smith commented that this is the best thing we have ever had. when reporting on the effects of the trial in Ceduna where Grocery sales are up and alcohol sales are down. Domestic violence, alcoholism, school truancy and ambulance call-outs are all reduced. Also it is reported that more people are seeking financial counselling.

I was born in Australia and over many years I have seen our young people increasingly unemployed and drifting toward tobacco abuse, gambling and alcohol abuse and the subsequent despair and downward spiral into mental health problems.

I think all taxpayers would want to be sure that the welfare they are funding for our young people will enable them to have a better life, and realise that they can better themselves.

The Australia of today does not have the availability of jobs that were available when I was young and it is too easy for young people to feel that they have no real future.

I think the passage of this bill will help these young people develop a sense of responsibility and a realisation that they can do well. It will also be much better for the children involved as they will not miss out on the basic amenities of life.

Young people are our future leaders and it is essential that they be helped as much as possible and the Cashless Debit Card Bill will be of benefit to us all.

Yours faithfully,