

Dear Members of the Parliament of Australia

We would like to show that this household of 4 adults that vote for Labor party and Greens party **do not support** this cashless card (The Social Services Legislation Amendment (Cashless Debit Card Trial Expansion) Bill 2018), that is trying to come to Bundaberg and Hervey Bay area (Hinkler). We live in Childers QLD and it would make our household worse off than it is now as many of our household bills are handled by direct debiting especially our mortgages, which the card does not allow, with alternative payment options taking up to nine months to arrange. It will make more crime in the area and domestic violence will go up with it and drinking will not go down. The Mayor Cr Jack Dempsey has done a survey and it was only 22% support when they were told the cost and how it would impact the community. The cost of living will increase as the fee schedule will have to be passed along to the customers, which will in turn make it more difficult to find jobs as businesses will employ less to cover for the loss in revenue. Housing with the card will be virtually unattainable as most of the real estate agencies use direct debiting options and again not an option on the cashless card. Households that rely on cash income streams like garage sales, markets, Ebay, Etsy and so forth, will lose that income and be worse off and kiss goodbye to school tuckshops as most of these (at least in the Childers area) are cash facilities only. The cashless card will also make it difficult to pay for local tradesmen as many of them run on cash or provide discounts for paying in cash which will be lost. There is no financial protection on the card (particularly against scams which can affect us all despite all cautions taken) as INDUE does not accept any liability for financial loss. As well we would not be able to get water as we live off tank water and our provider does not have Eftpos and only cash payments as well how many regional services are cash like firewood, septic tank clearance when we need to clean out and as we do not have access internet out here all the time, and power issues and isolation from the city service we cannot just go to the hospital we have to travel 4 hours to see the Doctor / Specialists in Brisbane and it is a human rights breach, personal service exclusions such as water services, medical service, transport, car services, personal dignity and the stigma attached to the card is all that this area does not need right now as it is so hard to find work and to keep the job

Best regards,

24/06/2018

Sources:

The Bundaberg mayor Jack Dempsey against the cashless welfare trail
<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/may/21/bundaberg-mayor-turns-against-high-cost-of-cashless-welfare-trial>

Mayor on cashless card: 'whoever brought this up ... deserves an uppercut.
<https://www.pressreader.com/australia/newsmail/20180522/281526521714409>

Indue PDF about the card, fees and scams

<https://indue.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Conditions-of-Use.pdf>