

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Economics and Governance Committee](#); treasurer@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Subject: Urgent - Debt Reduction & Savings Bill.
Date: Friday, 30 April 2021 1:08:25 PM

Good Morning Chair & Board Members,

Apologies to the board for this late submission as relevant information was only received Wednesday of this week.

My name is Craig Goss owner of Method Tattoo Coffee Bar - Brendale.
I would like to raise awareness over the item addressed in the Debt Reduction and Savings Bill regarding the further regularisation of tattoo inks and the impacts this would have on our industry, small business and livelihoods.

Firstly, we understand that this issue is a concern for public health and safety. As a responsible business owner the health and wellbeing of our Clientele is always a priority. Our studio does not use UV inks as they are radio active and can have cancer causing affects (yet these inks are not banned). The concern we have over this issue is that there is no conclusive evidence based research that shows that tattooing these inks has carcinogenic affects. The research does show that lasering blue and green inks may have carcinogenic effects.

This is the ongoing theme throughout the research papers I have read from the EU and independent sources. Walter Liszewski, a Dermatologist and cancer researcher at Northwestern University, who treats reactions to tattoo says he's in favour of government oversight to ensure public safety but says "The EU has really moved to be on the cautious side, and really sort of banning anything that has even the slightest suggestion that it could be a carcinogen". Ines Schreiver, who studies tattooing ink at the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, recently examined the two pigments that have been of concern by the EU (Blue 15:3 & Green 7), said that they appear to have a comparatively low level of toxicity but that it wasn't possible to provide a reliable health risk assessment because of the lack of data. (Quotes taken from the article, "What's in tattoo ink," written by Nell Greenfieldboyce.)

Queensland Government have been the forerunner in regulating the tattoo industry in Australia. I am aware that New South Wales has followed suit on many issues and Victoria in some areas, but not all areas i.e. licensing. I am concerned that if manufacturing companies overseas do not comply with the Queensland CAC that the tattoo industry in Queensland will be destroyed, that small business' will be destroyed and that artists will relocate with their families to other states to continue their trade. This will also have an impact on artists currently in those states as their business will be impacted by the influx of new artist's.

The second issue I have is that people wanting colour tattoos will cross the borders to get them or alternatively they will go overseas to Bali or Thailand to get their tattoos. I question this bill's effectiveness in these regards. I feel this Bill isolates Qld tattoo artists, our industries and does not fix the perceived problem.

After a year of operating restrictions due to COVID-19, this is a difficult situation to face for our industry and I am worried about the impact of mental health on myself and fellow colleagues in Queensland.

I would also like for it to be taken under consideration that the date for the second sitting before the house of this bill be moved from 15 May to a later date as the outline of the

CAC has not yet been released.

I appreciate the board members taking the time to read this email and consider the points I have raised.

Kind Regards,
Craig Goss

