To Senator Hutchins -
Re : Parlimentary inquiry re identity and flying - against extra cost and delay approach.

I wish to provide a submission re the Parlimentary inquiry - re identity and flying - re police submissions.
I travel interstate frequently by plane, including discount airlines.

I object to the approach reported from thenews reports on the weekend of the 8 January,2010 that additional checks be conducted on airline travellers, adding extra costs and time, for additional identity be submitted for police use
for airlines, and suggestion of cancellation of the cost lowering approach of web-checkins.

The introduction of web checkin has led to significant cost savings for on individuals and airline businesses, saving millions of dollars, and allows more people to travel by plane rather than driving, which saves people from long trips on the roads (which is also a more dangerous way of travel).

Also note that tickets are bought from a credit card -
one possible approach to tracking the purchaser is to limit the ticket purchase to an Australian, or valid overseas country credit card.

I also do not see This as a cost-effective approach for the target purpose, of reducing drug trafficing. In fact this is a very expensive and probably ineffective approach for that.

It could also be noted that drugs could be imported to , grown in , or manufactured directly in each capital city, so flying between Australian cities would be of minor improvement, for a large interference with the lives of normal citizens.
The amount of drug interdiction for the high cost would be minimal
Interstate driving and courier traffic in any case remains free of id checks, unless there is a proposal to checkpoint all interstate borders?

Australians previously rejected requests for a national id card, and I expect that these on-going id issues would also be rejected by the population.

While the ever increasing identity checks requested by government and police are normally just a nuisance, the proposal to interrupt web-checkins would lead to significant extra costs to the public and affect business for airlines.

I would propose that this be rejected this as an ineffective approach and that web-checkins remain.

Regards,
Malcolm Park