Participation of Australians in online poker Submission 19

From: Philip Greenway
To: Committee, EC (SEN)
Subject: Online poker bill

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To whom it may concern.

I am writing to inform your good selves of my of my personal concerns with regards to the upcoming members bill banning online poker.

My name is Philip Adrain Greenway, I am a sixty two year old invalid pensioner, living in

I have enjoyed the ability to play online poker for some seven to ten years. As a result of an accident in 1997, I am unable to enjoy many aspects of live normally afford to able-bodied individuals.

Many hours of skill based play has been a offset to the many hours of ongoing pain I suffer as a result of my spinal fractures, osteoporosis, osteoarthritis and chronic asthma, I could go on, however the list is extensive.

I feel my the ability to play online should be able to continue and be available to all Australian who desire to play, I also believe the Australian Government should be able to gain taxation revenue from the companies that benefit from Australian players.

I have never played at a club, pub or the STAR casino.

I, because of my location, are unable to play the aforementioned venues as it has been suggested by some quarters arguing against the online poker players, putting it simply, it would cost me more personally, both physically and financially just to travel to these venues than I invest in playing online, as there is no local public transport situation available to me after a certain time in the afternoon.

As I rarely drink, don't smoke, the small amount I invest, verses enjoyment gained I see as well worth it.

I understand mine, is just one example, there are many varied reasons that will be put forward, as well as the many avenues of gambling that put an extreme strain on families, TAB, poker machines [which have little to do with poker] are far from favourable.

I personally feel that online poker, whilst there is some element of luck involved, is mainly a game of skill, and tactics, pitting players against players, rather than the players verses the house, and some lines of sports betting deserve closer scrutiny as to their suitability in the Australian gambling makeup.

Regards.

Philip Greenway