



Committee Secretary,  
Economics Legislation Committee,  
Department of the Senate,  
PO Box 6100,  
Parliament House,  
CANBERRA ACT 2600.

**RE: Banking System Reform (Separation of Banks) Bill 2019**

Dear Committee members,

I write to offer my full support for the passing of this Bill into law. I believe that investment and wholesale banking, and the risks associated with these activities, should be totally separated from retail and commercial banking in Australia. Retail customers such as myself, in particular, should not be placed in a situation where our deposits are at risk from the highly hazardous, and sometimes highly profitable, activities of investment banking activities. I was personally encouraged prior to the 2008 financial crisis to extend my mortgage and leverage against the capital to borrow more money in order to invest in so-called highly performing investments. I lost the lot after the GFC and was left with a debt [REDACTED]. Although I take full personal responsibility for this financial error, in hindsight I can now see that there was no way that I should have ever been loaned this money, yet it was encouraged as part of the banks investment activities. Break up the banks – if people want to take risky investments with investment banks, then they are free to do so, however the remainder of the banks' customers should not be placed at risk because of these activities. By creating a separated system, individuals and small businesses can conduct their business with retail banks where the risk to their deposits are significantly reduced. Australian needs to avoid what happened in Ireland where the government bailout of banks after the GFC has left the Irish tax payer with years of increased taxes.

Dr Nathan J Wilson,

13<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.