

Right to Use Cash and Cash Substitutes

HJR 100 by Rep. Tan Parker

Why Texas Needs an Addition to the Texas Bill of Rights

- The financial press is reporting that global banking interests are pushing to force Americans and others around the world to use their services – to what the bankers call a “cashless society” which would include:
 - Forced use of banks for holding legal currency
 - Elimination of physical paper currency, or at the very least elimination of large denomination bills.
 - Criminalization of holding of cash or its transport across borders.
- The choice to hold the wealth one has earned over a lifetime in the form of one’s choice is a natural right which no government should violate. As such, the right to hold and use cash and cash substitutes falls under one of those rights that should be protected under the Ninth Amendment.
- This natural right needs explicit codification and protection in the Texas Bill of Rights to help stop the assault on the financial and privacy rights of Texans.
- In 2016, India removed its 1000 and 500 rupee notes from circulation within 48 hours, creating chaos throughout India and destroying the life savings of millions of Indians.

The proposed addition to the Texas Bill of Rights

The right of the people to own, hold, and use a mutually agreed upon medium of exchange, including cash, coin, bullion, digital currency, or scrip, when trading and contracting for goods and services shall not be infringed. No government shall prohibit or encumber ownership or holding of any form or any amount of money or other currency. Nothing in this section shall be construed as restricting this state or a political subdivision of this state from only accepting payments made or entering into transactions using certain mediums of exchange.

Discussion

Being forced to use banking services instead of storing and using the currency of choice builds the police state because it allows governments to:

- See every financial transaction you make, violating any right to financial privacy.
- Benefit the crony bankers who seek to make more money off the citizenry, especially the poorest among us. Crony bankers know that if we get to “negative interest rates,” whereby banks charge us to store our money with them, that many will choose to store our wealth elsewhere, so they want government to do for banks what Obamacare did for insurance companies -- have the government force us to use their services.
- Easily confiscate the wealth of Texans via Cyprus-style “bail-ins” or “haircuts.”

If anything unites Texans across party and ideological lines (from Occupy Wall Streeters to Tea Partiers), it is a hatred of the use of government to benefit bankers at the expense of Texans.

Matt Schaefer introduced this in 2017 as HJR 89.