

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Assistance Bill Consultation](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to consultation on the Assistance and Access Bill 2018  
**Date:** Wednesday, 5 September 2018 10:14:54 PM

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Dear Minister

I write to express my concerns over the draft legislation titled 'The Assistance and Access Bill 2018', and outline these concerns below.

(1) It represents an unprecedented invasion of privacy.

The government and police continually tell us that they've always been able to read messages between criminals (and others), and that the new Bill is essentially to return to that status quo. This is dishonest. Criminals have always been able to encrypt communications, with anything from simple word substitution ciphers, to code phrases, to one-time pads, and so on. The government has always been able to intercept such messages, but it has never been able to read them unless the criminals are, well, criminally incompetent.

(2) It represents a staggering reduction in security.

The government has said that they will not force companies to install back-doors in their software, but instead they will require encryption to be disabled entirely. That is, they'll eliminate the need for a back-door simply by removing the entire house. This does not increase security! Nobody will discover the back-door, because they can simply walk through where the walls used to be...

I have two requests from the government if this Bill is implemented:

(1) Ministers who are confident in the safety of this Bill take personal financial responsibility for any hacking arising from it. After all, if they are not confident enough to risk their money, why should they be allowed to risk everyone else's money?

(2) Remove Parliament House and hold all meetings outdoors (under umbrellas when necessary). If Parliament House doesn't exist then we don't have to worry about people sneaking weapons/cameras/imbeciles into it, and so the security of the government rises dramatically. There's a great saving in building maintenance and security guards too.

[REDACTED]