

**From:** Ben Vezina  
**To:** [Assistance Bill Consultation](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment on The Assistance and Access Bill 2018  
**Date:** Monday, 27 August 2018 2:59:36 AM

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Hi guys,

I just wanted to write and express my concern over the The Assistance and Access Bill 2018.

We should be enacting laws to increase the safety of Australia and the world during this period of technological development. However, my main concern is the fact that none of this mission creep is justified. I'd honestly like to know of a single instance in the history of mass data collection in Australia that a terrorist was caught. If this was a common thing, then ramping up the currently overreaching privacy laws would be justified. However I am aware of no such evidence to support this growing of power. If you could direct me to the publicly evidence then I will gladly concede.

Other main points as to why this is a bad idea:

1. You can't honestly think these exploits, especially regarding the mobile phone spyware won't be utilised by actual cyber criminals. This legislation will put ordinary people at higher risk of cyber crimes.
2. This will harm whistleblowers and journalists ability to spread critical information
3. Dissenting voices can be disarmed (much easier) via character assassination/smearing
4. We the people have a right to our privacy

Thanks