

From: Ian Comor
To: [Assistance Bill Consultation](#)
Subject: Submission to consultation on the Assistance and Access Bill 2018
Date: Friday, 7 September 2018 5:55:06 PM

Dear Minister

I am writing to express my concerns over the draft legislation titled 'The Assistance and Access Bill 2018', and outline my concerns below:

1. This Bill will increase net harm Australia. This Bill will introduce vulnerabilities into the electronic systems all Australians rely on on a daily basis, opening the door to malicious outside attackers that can do Australia and its citizens harm.
2. Australians will place less trust on their government and its ability to protect their interests, instead making Australians fearful of the government's intentions. Australians may reduce their use of electronic systems, or rely on third-party applications made off-shore in an attempt to avoid the possibility of 'snooping'.
3. There are no safeguards that prevent any government-based hacking having negative consequences for Australian citizens.
4. This Bill is a blatant overreach of power, an intrusion into the digital lives of the Australian people, and undermines the trust that Australians have in the government. The notions of privacy that we take for granted will become a questionable resource, and a forgotten notion. This is a flagrant over-extension of government intrusion into the digital space of Australians, which will undoubtedly have net negative consequences for all.
5. The threat of jail time or financial penalties to 'whistleblowers' who would seek to inform the Australian population of undue actions is a further erosion of human rights, and should not be considered.

Thank you

Ian Comor
