

**From:** Jared Johnston  
**To:** [Assistance Bill Consultation](#)  
**Subject:** Concerned citizen  
**Date:** Monday, 10 September 2018 10:48:36 PM

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Hi,

I have recently become aware of The Assistance and Access Bill 2018, which is currently out for public consultation. Although I see that there are good intentions behind the bill, the implications are concerning.

The implementation of this bill risks the privacy and security of Australian citizen. When you compare the number of people potentially helped by the bill, and the number of people potentially put at risk by the bill, it's clearly an overall negative.

In its current form, the bill assumes a perfect system of government and democracy. In the current environment, the risk of abuse may be low, but there are no guarantees that the powers granted to the government in this bill could not be used against the Australian people in the future. This risk should be taken lightly.

In comparison to the risks introduced by the bill, the risks they are attempting to address are quite low. We happily accept far greater risks in our lives without concern.

The Assistance and Access Bill consultation landing page references sex offender, organised crime, and terrorism as the drivers behind this bill. The bill focuses on ease of prosecution of these offenders. I believe our efforts would be better spend focusing on preventing these offences at their root cause. For example:

- greater scrutiny of immigrants
- a focus on removal of income sources of organised crime
- better education of families about who likely sex offenders might be
- Improvement to the systemic cycle of abuse caused by child safety services

Efforts in this space are likely to have a much greater positive effect, with the added benefit of not putting Australian at risk.

I do not support his bill.

Cheers,  
Jared Johnston