

From: victor rajewski
To: [Assistance Bill Consultation](#)
Subject: Assistance Bill
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I am writing to express my objections to the Assistance and Access bill. While encryption certainly makes it harder for law enforcement to perform surveillance, the genie is out of the bottle, and forcing companies to insert 'backdoors' into their software to assist law will end up with those backdoors being abused, either by governments intentionally (who knows who will be in power in future years, particularly since this proposed law lacks a judicial oversight system), unintentionally (governments are not known for their competence in technical areas), or malicious actors abusing the backdoors.

All this while, the 'real villains' will use end-to-end encrypted systems that don't come under the scrutiny of the AU government - it is comparatively simple to verify and compile one's own instance popular secure communications systems, so unless you hope to somehow stop open source encryption projects from existing, the more sophisticated targets will continue to have access to secure comms, while the security of everyone else in the country has been weakened.

This will also disproportionately hurt small businesses and startups as these likely do not have the resources to comply without massive loss of productivity.

I strongly urge you to consider the realities of encryption as it exists today and drop this proposed bill.

Victor Rajewski



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