

Please see below submission raising my concerns about the Telecommunications and Other Legislation Amendment (Assistance and Access) Bill 2018

Submission relating to the Telecommunications and Other Legislation Amendment (Assistance and Access) Bill 2018

I am concerned that the introduction of the Telecommunications and Other Legislation Amendment (Assistance and Access) Bill (the Bill).

It would appear that the Coalition Government and opposition has too quickly passed the Bill through the Parliament without due consideration of its ramifications in terms of the privacy of all persons in the community regardless of who they are. The Bill is said to be giving more security to the community, however I suggest it will have consequences in eroding our human rights and a failure to protect an individual's privacy from both private and public entities.

At the time it was passed it appeared there was a lack of the usual checks and balances that proposed legislation would undergo, including rigorous consideration and consultation between a range of stakeholders as well as community groups. There appeared to be no consideration of issues that may arise to avoid unintended consequences of the introduction of the legislation that will create more problems than intended.

If criminal activity is suspected the normal channels of seeking judicial approval should be sought with checks and rigorous oversight.

I understand that there has been a significant number of submissions made that are critical of the Bill. With both sides of the Parliament having now given some level of approval to the Bill I ask what does that say about democracy in Australia. I find it confronting that we are heading in a direction that is usually reserved for science fiction or totalitarian societies not a democratic one that we are told we have.

I ask that the Telecommunications and other Legislation Amendment (Assistance and Access) Bill 2018 be reviewed and amended to reflect the views in submissions made by the community and of a democratic society.

Thank you for providing an opportunity to comment on the proposed legislation.

Mary Greene

