

**Joint Select Committee on Cyber-Safety****Chair: Senator Catryna Bilyk****Deputy Chair: Mr Alex Hawke MP**

Special Hearing on New Powers to fight Cyber Crime

Telstra, ASIO and The Privacy Foundation will be among witnesses fronting an upcoming hearing of the Joint Select Committee on Cyber-Safety examining proposed changes to telecommunications law.

The Cybercrime Legislation Amendment Bill increases the powers of law enforcement agencies and ASIO to obtain telecommunications data of Australian citizens. It also expands Commonwealth computer offences and allows the AFP to disclosure data to foreign police. The hearing will take on Monday, 1 August at Parliament House, Canberra.

Committee chair Senator Catryna Bilyk said the bill is an important step toward Australia's accession to the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime.

"However, it is important the Parliament is satisfied that the Bill achieves its criminal law goals," she said.

"The Bill will also provide certainty for industry with clearer obligations to assist police in collecting and preserving telecommunications data.

"The Committee will consider whether the Bill allows enough time for both industry and the law enforcement agencies to be prepared for the new regime and ensure they can comply with the law."

The Law Council of Australia, the Australian Privacy Foundation, Cyberspace Policy and Law Centre, and Telstra will be heard between 10:15 am and 1:00 pm.

The Attorney-General's Department, Australian Federal Police and ASIO will be heard together at 1.30 pm. The Committee will then undertake a private inspection of the AFP High Tech Crime Centre.

The public hearing will commence at **10.15 am in Committee Room 2R1**, Parliament House, Canberra and will be audio broadcast from 10.15 am onwards at:

<http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

Further information about the inquiry can be obtained from the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/jsc or from the Secretariat on (02) 6277 4202.

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