

REPRESENTATION AGAINST THE INTRODUCTION OF BODY SCANNERS IN AUSTRALIAN AIRPORTS

There is simply no justification for the cost, installation or use of these body scanners and I urge the Australian Govt not to introduce these costly, dangerous, harmful and unnecessary devices at Australian Airports.

There is insufficient justification for their introduction – there have been NO deaths or incidences of terrorism in Australia (and only one incident overseas eleven years ago) to justify the introduction of these devices – particularly the kind of terrorism that scanners would purportedly prevent – and in any event there is NO evidence that they would prevent any terrorism whatsoever.

These devices would not have prevented the underwear bomber – who in any event was found to have been helped onto the plane by a US Govt operative.

This ridiculous level of harassment of the Australian people by forcibly body-scanning them and thereby subjecting them to unnecessary and harmful – potentially fatal – radiation due to one instance of alleged terrorism eleven years ago in another country is a complete nonsense.

Dr Edward Dauer - Head of Radiology at Florida Medical Centre in Fort Lauderdale reported that the devices pose a significant cancer risk – particularly to people over 65y.o. and women genetically at risk of breast cancer.

Studies at John Hopkins, Columbia and California Universities have ALL warned that these devices WILL cause an increase in cancer – up to 7 times - particularly occupational cancer which would be claimable on workers compensation. Are we willing to risk this drastic human and financial cost for no tangible benefit?

The Australian Govt says it acknowledges the US TSA in saying the devices are safe – but the European Commission has banned the use of scanners until they proven safe.

Given the TSA's deplorable record where they have consistently mislead the US public, released "private" scans, sexually harassed citizens, sexually assaulted citizens, stolen citizens possessions, harassed veterans and the elderly, why would the Australian Govt accept their representations?

Are we – free Australian people with a history of honest bravery – going to live like cowards in fear of non-existent "boogy-men" supposedly hiding under every bed?

I suggest that this sort of craven cowardice is totally un-Australian.

What will come next? Where will these elusive phantoms emerge next? Bus and train stations? Football stadia? High school socials? Shopping malls?

I am happy to provide the links to all stories/articles/statistics referred to in this representation.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Preston

