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Sent: Sunday, 7 May 2000 3:28 PM
To: laca.reps@aph.gov.au
Subject: Submission to the Inquiry into the Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Bill 2000

As a member of public I am very concerned that his Bill will erode my and other individuals' basic human right to privacy to the benefit of corporations.

I consider it a gross invasion of privacy for companies to be able to compile information on me, or use it for purposes other than for which it was given, without my written consent. This would include the transfer of data to "related" companies, or for a 'secondary use' "related" to the 'primary use', which undermine any attempt to address the OECD standards.

I demand that legislation enacted regarding privacy consists of enforceable ways to protect the interests of citizens, rather than 'light-touch legislation' in favour of corporate interests. Rather than allowing companies to provide "proof" that public consultation has occurred, the Privacy Commissioner's role should include the detection and addressing of public concerns.

There are also too many exemptions proposed in the Bill, for example exemption of existing data from several Principles.

I also feel the freedoms granted to Direct Marketing companies by the Bill are unacceptable, particularly as this is an area where unsolicited use of personal details is already an issue with the public. Freedoms granted to law enforcement and security agencies are also a breach of privacy.

These and other issues need to be addressed through public consultation before this legislation can be passed.

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