

From: marc brunet [mmbrunet@bigpond.com]
Sent: Sunday, 14 May 2000 10:50 PM
To: laca.reps@aph.gov.au
Subject: 'A privacy scheme for the private sector : Release of Key Provisions'
submission from a private citizen :

I have read the evaluation and critique of 'A privacy scheme for the private sector : Release of Key Provisions' of 14 December 1999 prepared by the ANU and Roger Clarke earlier this year as published on the web at :
<http://www.anu.edu.au/people/Roger.Clarke/DV/PAPSSub0001.html>

I want to register with you my very deep concern at this administration's shockingly watered down bill proposed to 'implement' the OECD's Guidelines on the Protection of Privacy and Transborder Flows of Personal Data. According to this expert and professional assessment, this bill dangerously panders to the interests of the e-commerce and marketing industry, while simply 'selling' the interests of private citizens, down the drain.

As an Australian citizen, I urge you to pass a privacy legislation that :
1/ forces any company that wants to compile a database containing private information pertaining to me, to seek my written informed consent, first. ('opt in' option). I reject the current 'opt out' option that puts the onus on me to contact hundreds of organisations and go through a lot of hassle to try and get off their databases.)

2/ make it illegal for information given for one purpose (filling out forms, using credit card, etc) to be used for another purpose without my informed written consent.

3/ frame really tough legislation that effectively keep 'data miners' accountable, and introduce mechanisms that readily permit a citizen to check his/her files and obtain. As things stand, I understand you have already caved in to 'data mining' interests who want to minimise hassles with such 'trouble makers', by making it impossible or else very difficult to access their own files.

I am absolutely shocked by this dereliction of duty of care to your voters, and remind you if such is the case this will no fail to boomerang on you at election time. I urge you to protect the little people that form this nation and not sell their privacy (which is their security) away to the powerful and bullying money interests of this world.

yours faithfully

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