

Sent: Friday, 16 March 2007 3:28 PM
To: Accesscard Website
Subject: Accesscard.gov.au Feedback Email

I would like to make the following submission to the Senate Inquiry. I have found it difficult to find the correct site on the Internet.

My points are:

The idea of an identity card is fundamentally of no concern to me if it is used in the same way as a driver's licence is used to confirm identity. However:

The information on the card should be limited to what is needed to confirm identity. It could be linked to Government computers, so that further information could be downloaded using the card with a special code known only to the department/s i. e, they have information on Jane Smith (of ?) born 2/9/62 on their data base but not on the card. Possibly they would only need the information on the card for this any way, although a number linked to a code would make sure it was the right Jane Smith and deal with the case if she had changed her name.

Users should be able to access information on their card and challenge inaccurate information, free of charge.

It could be used as a general identity card in the community, but production of it should not be required, as other identity cards, such as student cards, or drivers' licences could be used by those who prefer to do so. However, the almost universal request to "see your driver's licence" tends to disadvantage non-drivers who want to open bank accounts or get library cards. The national identity card could be used for this purpose, and if only limited information were accessible to non-government users, it would not constitute a threat to the privacy of those who chose to use it in this way.

No one should be compelled to produce the card except when accessing government benefits. People would have to produce it at the doctor's but medical staff would not have access to detailed information (only name and date of birth, for instance).

Yours sincerely

Margaret Dingle