

To the Senate Select Committee on the Australia-US Free Trade Agreement,

I am writing to voice my concern about the current Australia-US Free Trade Agreement specifically on the proposed changes to Australia's laws regarding Intellectual Property rights. The current agreement will amend our legislations to impose US-style DMCA laws (article 17.4.7), and impose a 20-year extension to current copyright terms (article 17.4.4) which will directly affect publicly-valuable organizations such as Project Gutenberg in Australia (<http://www.gutenberg.net.au>). This and other articles in the Australia-US FTA do not benefit Australians in the long term as it disproportionately shifts a greater balance of power to US companies whilst limiting our current freedoms in Australia.

Regards,
Joseph Tan