

I refer to the submissions of:

Brendan Scott (being submission number 81)

Cybersource Pty Limited (being submission number 85)

CAUL (being submission number 115)

ALIA (being submission number 142)

to the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties reference on the Australia
- United States of America Free Trade Agreement.

I have read these submissions and I agree with the statements made in them, especially in relation to the provisions in Chapter 17. In particular, as a IT professional with over 10 years experience in the Education industry, I am deeply concerned that this agreement does not reflect the emerging international trends in either the IT or Education industries.

The Australian economy is increasingly dependant on its information industries, and it is a grave concern that we are going to shackle these industries with outdated approaches to law at a time when the information market is becoming increasingly globalised and internationally competitive. In order to effectively continue our leadership role in this sector (for example, many leading open source developers are based in Australia), it is imperative that we continue to provide an appropriate and up-to-date legal environment that actively supports the healthy and rapid development of information industries.

I consequently feel that the Free Trade Agreement should be opposed in its current form, until appropriate revisions are made on these intellectual property/copyright issues.

Nathan Bailey