

From: eric ziegenhorn
Sent: Friday, 16 April 2004 12:26 PM
To: FTA, Committee (SEN)
Subject: Free Trade Agreement

Senate Select Committee on the Free Trade Agreement
between Australia and the United States of America

Dear Secretary,

I am a citizen of the United States of America, and I would like to voice my concern about the proposed Free Trade Agreement released for public review on March 4, 2004. This agreement will undoubtedly have negative impacts on the Australian economy in the long term due to the restrictions it places on common and healthy open source software design practices. In my experience, businesses use, increasingly so, open source software at every level. Furthermore, the limitations on circumventing technological protection measures is obscenely broad. This type of law has already caused considerable trouble in the United States, and has severely damaged a number of individuals' futures by unfairly jailing them. Please consider all of the possible activities that are currently commonplace and encouraged, as well as the basic principles of fair use that underlie them, that will be wiped out by enacting this agreement. I know I am not a citizen and henceforth don't count, but please take this message as a sign that you should listen closely to Australian citizens that have the same message for you.

Thank you for your time,
Eric Ziegenhorn

