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Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Parliament House Canberra ACT 2601

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013

## Submission in relation to the feasibility of a prohibition on charging fees for an unlisted number service

## **About EFA**

Established in January 1994, Electronic Frontiers Australia, Inc. (EFA) is a national, membership-based non-profit organisation representing Internet users concerned with on-line freedoms and rights.

EFA is independent of government and commerce, and is funded by membership subscriptions and donations from individuals and organisations with an altruistic interest in promoting online civil liberties. EFA members and supporters come from all parts of Australia and from diverse backgrounds.

Our major objectives are to protect and promote the civil liberties of users of computer based communications systems (such as the Internet) and of those affected by their use and to educate the community at large about the social, political and civil liberties issues involved in the use of computer based communications systems.

EFA's website is at: www.efa.org.au.

## **Submission**

EFA supports the submission on this issue provided by the Australian Privacy Foundation (APF), dated today, 28<sup>th</sup> March, which concludes that,

"the case for a prohibition of charging for unlisted telephone numbers (silent lines) has been well established for many years, as convincingly argued by the ALRC in its 2008 Report. We call on the Committee to add its voice to the clear community demand for a prohibition."

## Contact

For further information, please contact: Jon Lawrence, Executive Officer