



Privacy Act Amendments under Scrutiny

The Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Bill 2012 proposes changes to the *Privacy Act 1988* in response to recommendations made by the Australian Law Reform Commission. The House of Representatives Social Policy and Legal Affairs Committee is holding a public hearing as part of its inquiry into the Privacy Bill on Thursday 16 August 2012 in Canberra.

The Australian Law Reform Commission will appear at the hearing to discuss how effectively their recommendations have been adopted in the drafting of the bill. The Committee will also hear from the Australian Privacy Commissioner about the new powers conferred by the bill and the way that complaints are handled.

Graham Perrett MP, Committee Chair, said that many submissions to the inquiry express concerns with certain elements of the Privacy Bill, such as the application of the credit reporting provisions to organisations or businesses with an Australian link, cross-border disclosure of personal data, the use of de-identified data, unclear definitions, consistency with existing industry regulations, and consequences for users of relay services or translators.

“We will bring to the table the concerns raised by telecommunications, internet, social media, credit reporting, banking and insurance industry members in their written submissions,” said Mr Perrett. “The Committee will discuss these matters and clarify drafting decisions with the Attorney-General’s Department.”

Hearing Program
16 August 2012
Committee Room 1R3
Parliament House
Canberra

9.00am	Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
9.30am	Australian Law Reform Commission Law Council of Australia
10.15am	Attorney-General’s Department

You can listen to the proceedings live on your computer at www.aph.gov.au/live

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Graham Perrett MP, on (07) 3344 2622 or 0434058200.

For background information, please contact the **Secretariat of the Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs**:

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