

23 February 2022

Submission to the Inquiry into Critical Infrastructure

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Inquiry Into Critical Infrastructure.

As a software engineer by profession, I have a question on the following sections of the Bill:

"Division 5, 30DJ, (2): The Secretary may, by written notice given to the entity, require the entity to:

(a) both:

- (i) install a specified computer program on the computer; and
- (ii) do so within the period specified in the notice"

In the case of the software required by the Secretary to run on "nationally significant" systems operated by a private entity, if during its operation, due to a fault of the software or security vulnerability of the software exploited by third parties, or otherwise due to the software or its operation, causes irreparable damage to the critical infrastructure, such as a loss of data, or irreversible, unwanted, disclosure of personal or sensitive information, which party is liable for the damage to those affected, and to the private entity - and will the entity be able to seek compensation for damages, and/or loss of profits, from the department?

Kind regards,

Eric Man