



**Police Federation
of Australia**

The National Voice of Policing

ABN 31 384 184 778

Level 1, 21 Murray Crescent
GRIFFITH ACT 2603

Tel: (02) 6239 8900
Fax: (02) 6239 8999

The Secretary
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

pjcis@aph.gov.au

Review of Surveillance Legislation Amendment (Identify and Disrupt) Bill 2020

The Police Federation of Australia (PFA) thanks the Committee for the opportunity to make a submission to this Inquiry. As the Committee is aware, the PFA represents the professional and industrial interests of in excess of 64,000 police officers across every police jurisdiction in the country.

The PFA supports the Bill as a means of tackling criminal use of encryption, anonymising technology and the dark web.

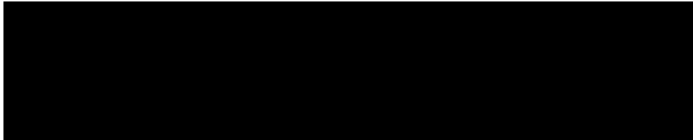
It will specifically assist law enforcement agencies, to identify criminals, their locations and the nature of their criminal activity. The lack of visibility using such technologies makes it easier for criminals to avoid law enforcement by operating globally in a virtual world, with near impunity.

As technology continues to advance at a considerable rate, the harm posed to the Australian community will only grow and therefore the need to enhance police powers to keep up with that technology will become increasingly important.

The Bill will allow the appropriate police powers to keep up with evolving criminal threats as crime is increasingly transferred to the digital world and as always, police understand and accept the extensive oversight that comes with the conferring of such powers.

It is for these reasons the PFA strongly supports the Bill.

Sincerely yours



Scott Weber APM
Chief Executive Officer
12 February 2021