

11-1-18

The Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security
Parliament House

CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Committee members,

I wish to make a submission opposing the government's bill to punish whistle-blowers & journalists with up to 20 year's jail if they reveal information obtained from government sources.

The law detailing the punishment for such people was enacted in 1914 in time of World War. Even then it was regarded as draconian by critics. Now the government wishes to make it ten times more draconian.

This government is already very secretive, refusing to disclose information regarding the treatment of asylum-seekers in off-shore detention. Now it wants to prevent the citizens from being told of potential corruption in government & the public service, which commentators believe exists.

I ask you to recommend strongly to Parliament that they should reject this proposed legislation.

Yours sincerely,

E. ANNE LANHAM