

Subject: Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment (Data Retention) Bill 2014
Date: Tuesday, 2 December 2014 11:26:18 AM

I am sending this e-mail in opposition to the proposed data retention bill. The additional security legislation introduced in 2014 has already been excessive, especially concerning additional ASIO powers that can be accessed by way of a single warrant, from a single individual, without review. While such new powers might suit those in government well, they are concerning to regular Australians, who can easily feel as though the new powers can be used for the purposes of the exploitation of the public rather than in their defense.

The Telecommunication (Interception and Access) Amendment (Data Retention) Bill 2014 will solidify these powers if passed, hence my opposition to it. Additionally, the additional costs imposed on telecommunications companies are likely to be passed down to consumers at least in part, which could not come at a worse time. Already, low and middle income earners are struggling with increasing frequency in the midst of a declining economy. This bill, in combination with the ASIO amendment passed on the 25th September 2014, is both socially and economically irresponsible.

Finally, research and data from other nations where similar measures have been passed questions, keenly, the effectiveness of data retention. Data retention measures have been found to be ineffective in preventing terrorism and preventing more domestic crime. As a result, I find no reason to support any aspect of the upcoming amendment.