

Jake Nelson
24 June 2020

Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee Members,

**Re: Submission to PJCIS Inquiry - Australian Security Intelligence
Organisation Amendment Bill 2020 (Cth)**

I do not support passing this Bill in its current form.

The Bill broadly overextends the powers of ASIO while removing oversight and creating breaches of Australian's rights. If this Bill is necessary for protecting ordinary citizens there should be further oversight over the acknowledged extraordinary powers being requested, not less. There should not exist closed loops which allow ASIO to effectively self-authorise, or remove the judicial process in order to allow oversight to be delegated to a political appointee.

I also find it impossible to believe that there would arise a circumstance where an oral approval would genuinely be required. Does the approver not have access to email, but they do have access to a phone? This appears to be another attempt to remove oversight and accountability while simultaneously allowing actions to be justified post fact.

In order to maintain a strong and functioning democracy individual freedoms are paramount. This Bill substantially harms individual freedoms, while simultaneously offering an inadequate level of oversight to ensure appropriate use of these extraordinary powers requested.

Sincerely yours,

Jake Nelson