



**Australian
Chamber of Commerce
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Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Secretariat,

Re: Cyber Security Legislative Package 2024

ACCI is pleased to have the opportunity to provide comments to the Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security in respect of the inquiry on the Cyber Security Legislative Package. ACCI has been engaged with the Department of Home Affairs on these topics for some time, since before the publication of the Cyber Security Strategy 2023-2023, highlighting the importance of cyber security for business, and the need for a collaborative approach between government and industry.

We strongly welcome the Cyber Security Bill, in particular:

- The Bill sets forth a high standard of cyber security for smart devices, building on existing international standards, and recognising the importance of allocating responsibilities right across the product value chain. These responsibilities should, however, be applied proportionately to manufacturers and suppliers, recognising that the manufacturer plays a more consequential role with regard to cyber security compliance than a supplier of the product. Furthermore, due to the major changes in product requirements under the Act, a 12-month transition period is insufficient to ensure businesses are ready to comply at the date of commencement.
- Despite the fact that more small and medium-sized businesses will be caught in the scope of the ransomware reporting requirements (annual turnover of more than \$3 million), we welcome the fact that incidents are to be reported only when payments are made, and not when the attack is conducted; and that appropriate safeguards are introduced for the use and disclosure of reported information by government bodies.
- It is of the utmost importance that the limited use obligation on the Australian Signals Directorate and the National Cyber Security Coordinator are stringent enough, that information shared between the ASD/NCSC and sectoral regulators should not be able to identify specific businesses, which could enable the regulator to take prejudiced decisions to launch non-compliance investigations – information must be share only in aggregated and anonymised form.

We take the liberty of attaching our previous submission to the Department of Home Affairs, which sets out our views on the legislative package in greater detail.

Yours sincerely,



Jennifer Low
Director - Health, Safety, Resilience and Digital Policy

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