



VICTORIA POLICE



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Ms Jackie Morris
Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms Morris

Inquiry into the AusCheck Bill 2006

Thank you for your email dated 9 February 2007 inviting a submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee on the AusCheck Bill 2006.

Victoria Police supports the bill which will provide a stronger regulatory framework for conducting background checks on persons employed in the aviation and maritime industries.

Part 3 Division 1 Section 14 of the bill relates to the use of information recorded in the AusCheck database. It would be desirable for both federal and state police agencies to have access to this information for investigation, prosecution and intelligence purposes. Victoria Police, like its federal and state counterparts is regularly conducting investigations and security operations involving the aviation and maritime industries. Efficient and accountable access to AusCheck data will be crucial for police investigating persons or incidents relating to the maritime and aviation industries. Indeed, the information in the database will be useful for a wide range of investigations that do not specifically relate to the aviation and maritime industries.

It would therefore be appreciated if the committee could directly address the issues of access to AusCheck data with a view to ensuring it will be made available in an efficient and accountable manner to all of Australia's police agencies for any type of investigation, prosecution or security operation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the AusCheck Bill 2006.

Yours sincerely

Christine Nixon APM
Chief Commissioner

22/2/2007.