



10 November 2006

Julie Dennett
Principal Research Officer
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee

Re: Question from Senator Lundy

Dear Ms Dennett

In response to Senator Lundy's question on notice regarding the impact of the Bill on software development (particularly in the open source area), IEAA's view is that the Bill does not have any material impact on the ability of software developers to create complementary and competitive software. The proposed interoperability exceptions in the Copyright Amendment Bill are of comparable scope to the interoperability exceptions in the existing permitted purposes regime. IEAA considers that the existing interoperability exceptions are adequate to promote complementary and competitive software development, and are consistent with international practice, including that established in the United States and Europe. The scope of the interoperability exceptions in those jurisdictions has not hampered software development. Indeed, there is a large and flourishing interoperability industry in both the United States and Europe.

Please let me know if the Senate Committee requires any further material on this point, or any other issue discussed during Tuesday's hearing.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Hanlon', is positioned above the typed name.

Chris Hanlon
Chief Executive Officer

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