

To the Honourable Senator Payne,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the pending changes in the current Copyright Act, this complex bill is being rushed through the Parliamentary process without adequate opportunity for debate and an assessment of the impact of the proposed changes on Australian consumers, families, educators and the scientific community. I ask you to stop the introduction of any new criminal provisions and any changes not directly required by the AUSFTA until there has been adequate time for informed public debate. As you are surely aware, only the trade agreement's DRM provisions are required to be in place by January 1, 2007.

I also request you to record my views and concerns in the Committee's report, and I reiterate my request to hold back new criminal provisions and other proposed changes that are not directly required by the free trade agreement until there's been an appropriate assessment of their impact.

Respectfully,
Mark Walkom

Erskineville, NSW