



**Australian
Privacy
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MEDIA RELEASE

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Data Retention Bill Fails Every Test

The APF has appeared before two Parliamentary Committees, and presented evidence that:

- The proposal is much, much more than its proponents are pretending
- The proposal is not for targeted personal surveillance, but for mass surveillance
- The justification that has been offered is not evidence, just anecdotes
- The counter-evidence from multiple countries shows that data retention does not help with counter-terrorism or with other forms of serious crime
- Anyone with technical understanding can circumvent the law and avoid being tracked
- The proponents are ignoring the counter-evidence, and hoping people won't notice
- An effective weapon already exists, in the form of preservation orders
- The proposals would have serious negative impacts on normal people, and business
- The proposals do not include anything resembling proper safeguards
- The limited safeguards that the proposal contains are not subject to effective controls
- In other countries, such proposals are struck down by the highest-level courts, but that can't happen in Australia because we lack human rights protections
- The Parliament must apply as much care to the evidence before it as the High Court would if it had the opportunity to do so

The Parliament must reject this proposal for mass electronic surveillance

Summaries:

<https://www.privacy.org.au/Papers/SLCA-TIAA-Notes-150202.pdf>

<https://www.privacy.org.au/Papers/PJCIS-DataRet-Supp-150131.pdf>

Detailed Submission:

<https://www.privacy.org.au/Papers/PJCIS-DataRetention-150119.pdf>

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