

Submission Regarding the Misinformation and Disinformation Bill

I am proud to be an Australian citizen because our nation has always supported our freedoms of speech and expression, whether all agree with everything expressed or not. Disagreeing or stating ones sincere beliefs, should not be labelled as hate speech, when delivered respectfully, just because it doesn't line up with someone else's way of thinking. After all, who should have the right to judge what truth is? All Australians should be able to state the truth as they see it and debate/discuss issues without being judged or condemned.

I am not in support of this new Bill proposal which puts our government in a position of ultimate authority on what we can say and believe. To make ACMA and META, the tech watchdogs with authority to punish and impose huge fines on those who don't fall into line with their interpretation of what truth is; is unconstitutional. We should protect our traditional human rights and freedoms, as our Australian government has always done to date. These included: freedom of speech; opinion; religion; association and movement.

I strongly oppose this proposed Bill and believe the impacts of trying to enforce an ideological conformity would be devastating for our country. The possibility of misuse of censorship powers and insufficient accountability, (for those dictating truth, and policing it), also poses a terrible threat to the safety and well-being of Australians.

This Bill is not consistent with the United Nations declaration of human rights, and would be a drastic overreach on behalf of our Australian government. Thank you for the opportunity to express my opposition to this misinformation and disinformation Bill.

Kind Regards,

