

# Submission – Proposed Communications Legislation Amendment (Combatting Misinformation and Disinformation) Bill 2023

Submission by: Mrs Belinda Lanzon

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To Whom It May Concern,

I wish to express my concern and opposition to the proposed Communications Legislation Amendment (Combatting Misinformation and Disinformation) Bill 2023.

As a stay-at-home mother of six children, I access digital platform services on a daily basis and consider them an invaluable tool. Digital platforms such as YouTube and Facebook help me to stay connected to my community and the rest of the world and provide me with information and opinions that assist me in the better running of my household.

My main concern with the proposed bill is that the ACMA would be given the authority to decide what is “the truth” and what constitutes “harm”. This subjective definition leaves room for abuse of power, and suppress public debate and diverse opinions and perspectives. Open dialogue and information sharing on digital platforms would be hindered and this would threaten freedom of speech/expression and, therefore, threaten democracy.

I hope that this bill is withdrawn.

Sincerely,

Belinda Lanzon.