



5th August 2023

To:

The Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development,
Communication and Arts.

GPO Box 594

Canberra ACT 2601

Re:

Proposed ACMA powers to combat misinformation and disinformation (the communications legislation amendment combatting misinformation and disinformation) Bill 2023.

Dear Officer,

SUBMISSION

The following is my personal response to the above department's invitation regarding the draft amendments to the communications legislation (combatting misinformation and disinformation) Bill 2023. It is based on my understanding of the Australian Constitution, Human Rights Laws and knowledge of history and what has and can result from laws that prohibit free speech.

I am making this submission to formally **oppose** the misinformation and disinformation Bill 2023 that will give ACMA the power to control and limit free speech of the Australian people, across online media platforms. This Bill if passed, has the potential to violate the constitutional and human rights of the Australian people, in regards to free speech, and since freedom of speech is the foundation of democracy, it poses a threat to all other rights and freedoms eg. freedom of assembly, political expression, movement, religious and cultural expression and freedom of conscience. This Bill also proposes to exempt the Australian government and the media from being prosecuted under these proposed laws, which would in effect make them "the single source of truth". This kind of political atmosphere and powers by current or future governments has the very real possibility of leading us down the path of other well known political regimes that have or are currently committing human rights atrocities.

For the love of freedom in this country, please accept my submission to **oppose** this Bill. The Australian way of life depends on it. The truth is, there is no unquestionable truth in a genuine Democracy. There is only the vigorous and open debate of ideas.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

5th August 2023