

**Internet
Australia**



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**Internet Australia calls for parliamentary review of data retention
to be brought forward**

Internet Australia, the NFP peak body representing Internet users, today repeated its call for an urgent parliamentary review of the data retention scheme, which it has previously described as "fundamentally flawed".

IA appeared before the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security prior to the Data Retention Act being introduced into parliament.

"We told the committee that the draft Bill was "fundamentally flawed" and clearly had been written by lawyers who don't understand how the Internet actually works".

We were then invited to make a confidential submission, which we did. "Many of the changes recommended and accepted by the Government came from IA. The most notable being a requirement for a review of the Act after three years".

Since then IA has continued to draw attention to the flaws in the legislation and call on the Government to bring forward the review.

IA is critical of moves, announced this week, that could see metadata used in civil cases.

"We've asked them to look at the mess we're in now, not make the problem worse".

"Whether or not you think data retention is a good idea is largely moot at this point. The exercise has been a debacle. They don't even know how many ISP's are out there much less which ones will be collecting our metadata and how to find them. There are holes left gaping big enough to drive a semitrailer through this legislation".

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About Internet Australia

Internet Australia is the not-for-profit peak organisation representing everyone who uses the Internet. Our mission – "Helping Shape Our Internet Future" – is to promote Internet developments for the benefit of the whole community, including business, educational, government and private Internet users. We are a broad member-based organisation not an industry lobby group. Our directors and members hold significant roles in Internet-related organisations and enable us to provide high level policy and technical information to Internet user groups, governments and

regulatory authorities. Through our participation as the Australian chapter of the global Internet Society we contribute to the development of international Internet regulations and policies.