



National identification for everyone

What you need to know in order to combat the Access Card

Recognise that the Access Card is an Australia Card

Report your privacy and security concerns in relation to the Access Card to your Federal Member of Parliament and interest groups

Stop the Access Card in its current form

Whenever you intend to access an essential health and welfare service the Howard Government will first expect you to hand over your private personal and health details. Are you prepared for the attack on personal freedoms?

Access Card checkpoint

Be ready for:

- *your* personal details forming part of a federal governmental register able to be tapped by bureaucrats
- a society consisting of the '*registered*' and the '*unregistered*'
- the young and disadvantaged members of our community being further *marginalised* and *stigmatised* as they are denied access to essential health and welfare services
- *clumsy and onerous* paperwork just so that *you* can prove who you say you are
- Church groups, mum and dad run family day care organisations and local councils *asking to see your Access Card*
- *pressure from nosy private and government agencies* for you to load the Access Card with delicate and sensitive information about the way you choose to live your everyday life
- the *one-off photocopying of your card* by frontline staff of private and public sector groups to add to the files they already have about you
- the government of the day *changing the rules* about the Card without proper Parliamentary oversight

We are at the Crossroads

The Access Card is the Howard Government's proposal to pry on an unprecedented level into every Australian's personal affairs. Anonymity will be a thing of the past.

Disturbingly, the Government has introduced this legislation hastily and prior to its own Access Card Consumer and Privacy Taskforce fully reporting on privacy and security concerns.

This card is an identity card by stealth and Australia card by default. The Card is an attack on Victoria's newly enshrined fundamental human right to privacy.

Since 2005, the Democrats have consistently been fighting government insistence that there is a need for an Access Card. Questions remain unanswered by the Government about the exact purpose of the Access Card, the registration process and the security of significant amounts of personal and health information.

More safeguards are needed to protect our most precious of resources, our personal and health information on an Australia Card in the hands of a liberal federal Government.

Call to action. What you can do after attending this public meeting

Show your support for stopping the Access Card beyond your attendance at this public meeting by putting your views in writing.

Write to your Federal MP

I encourage you to approach your Federal member and seek a response to the following questions:

- What personal information of mine will be included on the card?
- Why do you have this personal information of mine and why is it necessary to be stored on a card?
- Which organisations will be entitled to access my information?
- What happens if my card is lost?
- What is your local member of Parliament doing to fix any potential privacy and security problems with the Card?

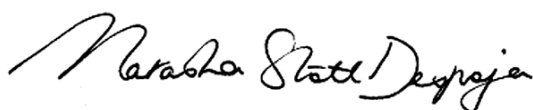
List of Members by State are at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/members/mi-state.asp>

Write to me

I intend to make the Access Card a front-and centre issue this election year. To do this you are welcome to email me at senator.stottdespoja@aph.gov.au with any concerns you might have about the government's legislation.

I have also set up a "Your Say" online feedback form on my website which allows you to express your concerns. You can elect not to have a reply sent to your comment. All comments are handled discreetly and confidentially.



Senator Natasha Stott Despoja
Senator for South Australia