

ACCESS CARD NO WAY

accesscardnoway.net

WHAT IS THE ACCESS CARD ?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At present 17 separate ID cards are used for Medicare, Human Services and Veterans Affairs • The Medicare system is old and subject to fraud • The new Card will have your Name, Title, Unique Number, card expiry date, veterans status, whether you are legally blind, signature and photo on the face • The smart chip will have all your social security status, your date of birth, residential address, Medicare Number, Account details where Government payments go, other information as determined by the Department Secretary and all the information on the face | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration will start in Apr 2008 and take until Dec 2010 • Each interview will require the production of all documents such as Birth, Marriage & Citizenship certificates and current Drivers Licenses and Bills • All documents are to copied and permanently stored by the Department • Your bio-metric photo will be taken • The Department assures the public that 12 minutes will be sufficient to do all the above, including the actual interview to check your identity |
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WHAT HAPPENS TO THE INFORMATION ?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new database is to be created with all the information provided • All participating Departments and Agencies will be able to see up-to-date address details and the name, date of birth and photo • The permanently stored identity documents will be kept in the same file but protected from casual access | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each file and each person will have a Unique Number • When a member of the public enters a Government Office their Card will be checked against the database with the Unique Number to ensure the person is who they claim to be |
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WHAT COULD GO WRONG ?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASIO & the Federal Police will have access to all files without warrant including when and why the card was used (Centrelink/Medicare) • All the details necessary for complete identity theft will be contained in the database • The database will be 'honey pot' for all organised crime and terrorists groups • The Department has promised to punish any breaches of privacy, but hasn't mentioned how they will stop the breach | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unofficial sharing of data will be easy – all your files will now be linked by your Unique Number • Family members hiding from abusive relationships will legally have to give their current address to a system that will give access to tens of thousands of terminals • Only Federal Witness Protection will have exemption from having an open address to the system |
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WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE ACCESS PROPOSAL ?

The Card links two quite separate systems, a Universal Health system – Medicare – where nothing is required other than citizenship or permanent residency, and a social welfare system that requires personal information - lots of it - and continually updated. It in effect enlists the entire adult population in the welfare system and keeps the higher standard of information needed for welfare applicants.

It requires the whole adult population to register for this Card and although there are limits on when it will be required, it is 95% of a universal ID Card system. The only missing ingredient is a requirement to carry and produce the Card. The Common Law Countries have always regarded this as a very dangerous and slippery slope, one that we should not venture on. The Common Law countries have been successful by restraining government and allowing free peoples to be as weird, funny, successful and individual as they can be without hurting others.

TIMETABLE

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| 26 April 2006 | Access Card proposal announced | 15 March 2007 | Senate Report tabled – recommends withdrawal of Bill due to defects – most prominent – no mechanism for oversight promised in future Bills, no quality discussion due to time restraints |
| May 2006 | Privacy Taskforce, Chaired by Alan Fels created | | |
| June 2006 | First Taskforce Discussion paper | 15 March 2007 | Minister withdraws Bill, states that a new Bill including oversight mechanisms will be presented to Parliament in June |
| 8 November 2006 | Taskforce First Report, 26 findings | 21 March 2007 | Minister admits that signing contracts without legislation would be incorrect |
| 9 November 2006 | Govt rejects the four key findings – the Taskforce asked for the signature, Unique Number and photo not to be on Card surface – Government rejects this as inefficient | 28 March 2007 | Minister outlines timetable to Access Card Campaign |
| | | 18 April 2007 | Announces rejection of Senate Committee requests for information. |
| 13 December 2006 | Draft Bill released, all comment to be received by Jan 12 (effectively two working weeks) | 12 June 2007 <i>(proposed date)</i> | Combined Access Card and oversight Bill to be presented to Parliament and immediately referred to Senate Committee |
| 8 February 2007 | Slightly reworked Access Card Bill, tabled in Parliament – referred to Senate Committee – all submission by 28 th Feb | July 2007 <i>(proposed date)</i> | Hearings of Senate Committee – intended to be each State Capital |
| 2,5-6 March 2006 | Hearings by Senate Committee in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra | 7 August 2007 <i>(proposed date)</i> | Bill to be debated and voted on |

INFORMATION

Access Card No Way Campaign – www.accesscardnoway.net

Australian Privacy Foundation - http://www.privacy.org.au/Campaigns/ID_cards/HSAC.html

Electronic Frontiers Australia – <http://www.efa.org.au/Issues/Privacy/accesscard.html>

Cyber Space Law Centre (UNSW) -http://www.cyberlawcentre.org/privacy/id_card/index.htm

The Office of the Access Card – www.accesscard.gov.au

Consumer & Privacy Taskforce

http://www.accesscard.gov.au/consumer_privacy_task_force.html

OVERSEAS ID DEBATES

The UK NO2ID Campaign – www.no2id.net

A Real Bad Idea - <http://realbadidea.blogspot.com/index.html>