

Change.org petition pro forma email

Dear Member of Parliament: I am writing this letter to voice my opposition to the egregiously dangerous legislation detailed in the proposed “News Media Bargaining Code”. As it stands, this proposed bill is an assault on Australia’s democracy. If online platforms like YouTube and Google are legally mandated to disclose the inner workings of their systems to large news publishers, then Parliament would effectively be enabling these large news publishers to unfairly rank their content at the top of the YouTube and Google search results. As a direct result, large news corporations would effectively be able to suppress articles, videos, opinions, ideas, and all other online content they disagree with (like videos from YouTube creators, for example). If that wasn’t dangerous enough, the proposed law also jeopardizes the privacy rights of YouTube viewers by requiring that YouTube hand-over vast amounts of private user-data to these large news companies. For the sake of Australia’s democracy, I plead that you use the awesome power vested in you to vote against this proposed bill in its entirety. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

Received by ACCC staff 1,013 times as at 5pm AEST, 28 August 2020.