

I originally discussed this matter with my MP and with the Minister's department both before and after the Bill passed through Parliament to raise my concerns about the position of my business as the provider of a wireless hotspot. I do not believe that the provisions in this act, even with revisions, will safeguard my business from the repercussions of individuals using our network facilities for file sharing without our knowledge.

The provisions as they stand will likely radically reduce the availability of public hotspots which will have a detrimental effect on economic activity, and will punish the law abiding majority in order to protect selective commercial interest against the activities of a small minority. This is not representative of a liberal democracy, and as it stands this act is not fit for purpose.

I also have grave misgivings about the motivation for an Act that was so heavily sponsored by a commercial special interest group, and so heavily lobbied for that one must doubt the independence of direction that MPs took on the matter - I did not vote for a recording company, and they should not be permitted to dictate our legislative program.