

Comments

The most important piece of feedback about the DAT Bill is the need to pause the next steps until the Privacy Act (1988) Cth has been reformed and strengthened. As currently drafted the DAT Bill relies upon the Australian Privacy Principles in the current Privacy Act (1988) Cth. If the Privacy Act is amended, elements of the APP may not be relevant in the DAT Bill as originally intended.

The other key problem with the DAT Bill is the way the data is viewed by the Bill. The data intended to be shared across entities is personal information, often only shared by individuals with government organisations because the individuals have to. This is not 'public sector data'. If the aim behind the Bill is to enable better use of the data held by relevant entities for research purposes, it would be much better for this to be in the reform of the Privacy Act to enable ethically approved research in the public interest rather than the sharing of the data via the DAT Bill.

Please consider pausing any further progression of the DAT Bill until the Privacy Act review has been completed.