443. C Bateson

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To Whom it May Concern

I am an author who creates content for a living - and a badly-paid living at that, despite having published over a dozen books and been recognised by several industry awards.

I develop something from nothing using my time, creative skills and knowledge and my material is my intellectual property. I own the copyright in my material and I expect people who use it pay for the time and effort I have expended on my creation. Not only do I expect to be paid but I **rely on that payment for my income**.

The statutory licences that the ALRC is recommending be repealed are very important to me. If my work is copied and shared by teachers in the classroom, I receive a copyright payment from the Copyright Agency.

These payments are recognition of the value of the material I have created, using my time, skill and experience. **Just as a supplier sells paper to a school for use in a photocopier – or a retailer sells laptops to a school, my work facilitates education**.

The system works very efficiently and quietly with very little administrative requirement from me. However, should the change proposed be made, how will I develop licensing arrangements myself? How will I track down copyright breaches? How will I prosecute breaches? How will I afford to mount a legal case? What compensation will I get for loss of income; to mount legal challenges or for the time it takes me to administer licensing arrangements?  
I am a specialist in my field, I have little expertise in the intricacies of copyright law, nor the time to pursue breaches – no matter how concerned I am.  
I completely reject the repeal of the very effective and fair Australian educational statutory licence system. Such a recommendation is a personal attack on my rights.  
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