

Dear Policy and Competition Development Group of the IDA,

I am writing in to speak out against the opt-out policy for spam. I find it odd for the government to wish to endorse a form of indiscriminate advertising which has always been a source of much frustration to e-mail users. Spam not only irritates by clogging up our mailboxes, but also affects productivity when people have to plough through their mailboxes and delete off all these unsolicited mails. While being able to opt out of future mails from a company when I receive promotional messages from it, having to deal with all the pioneer e-mails attacking my mailbox from a possibly endless number of sources would truly defeat the purpose. It is ridiculous that while e-mail service providers are introducing spam filters, our government is indirectly aiding its proliferation. The 'opt-in' policy which allows e-mail users to select the companies or areas of interest from which they will receive promotional e-mails, is used by several free e-mail service providers. I believe that to be a far better policy in the interests of e-mail users, rather than the 'opt-in' policy proposed.

Sincerely Yours,
Chan Huimin