

Of Superman ministers and developmentally-aligned broadcasters



By [Stephen Grootes: @StephenGrootes](#)

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There seems to be a lot of frightening legislation doing the rounds, which naturally means some drafts don't get the attention they deserve. But, not to be alarmist or anything, you need to have a look at the proposed new law on public broadcasting. Seriously.

A rough reading of the Draft Public Services Broadcasting Bill is one of those exercises that makes one wonder who writes these things. How is it actually done? Does a minister say, "I want to do this and this, now you go and put it into legal language"? Is there a brainstorming session with a whiteboard and shouted ideas? Is there a process; is there any kind of thought at all?

At a recent press conference, Cabinet spokesperson Themba Maseko was asked how some clauses get into bills. It was a question really aimed at the "Protection" of Information Bill. His answer, clearly put, was that "no clause gets into a Bill by accident", it's there for a reason. Well, dear reader, if that is the case, the following is going to make for some chilling reading.

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