

June 10, 2008

Dr. Eric Schmidt
Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer
Google, Inc.
1600 Amphitheatre Parkway
Mountain View , CA 94043

Dear Dr. Schmidt,

It has come to my attention that last week 14 consumer groups wrote you urging Google to include a link to its privacy policy on its homepage.

Without this link, Google is in violation of The California Privacy Protection Act of 2003 that requires commercial websites to “conspicuously post its privacy policy on its Web site.” All Google must do to bring itself into compliance with this Act is to place the word “privacy” on its homepage to link to its privacy policy.

As a member of the California State Assembly in which that legislation passed, I am of course deeply concerned whenever laws we passed are ignored. Last week I mailed you a letter that referenced this violation. However, I am especially concerned whenever California-based organizations are also outraged. Some of these consumer groups are even based in San Diego , which I represent.

I am writing to urge Google to heed California law and the reasonable request of these consumer groups and link directly to its privacy policy from its homepage.

If you do not comply with the online privacy act I will pursue other avenues to bring you into compliance—be it through the Attorney General’s office or any other means at my disposal including new legislation. We believe the law’s intent is clear and that you must link to your privacy policy from your homepage. However, if Google continues to hide behind legal loopholes then I will take matters into my own hands and author legislation to further clarify the law.

Please respond within the next seven (7) days to let me know your intentions.

Sincerely,

Joel Anderson
California State Assemblyman