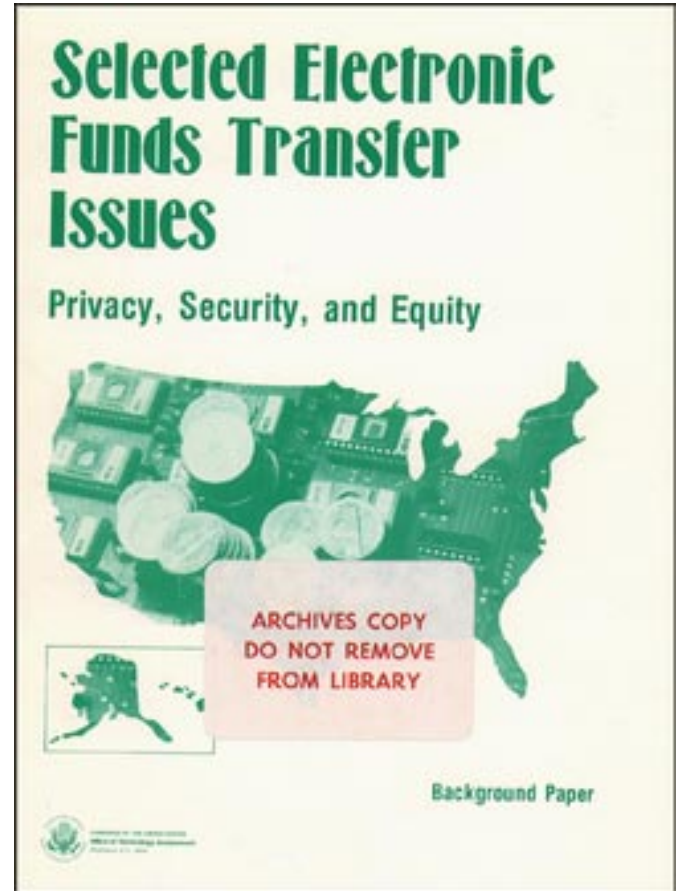


*Selected Electronic Funds Transfer Issues:
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Foreword

This background paper on selected electronic funds transfer (EFT) issues is one of four components of the OTA assessment of Societal Impacts of National Information Systems. It should be read along with the September 1981 OTA report on *Computer-Based National Information Systems: Technology and Public Policy Issues*, which provides the larger context for understanding EFT-related public policy questions,

The Senate Committee on the Judiciary, one of the original requesting committees, indicated an interest in possible implications of EFT for privacy, security, and equity, among other issue areas. In response, OTA initiated a preliminary analysis of relevant EFT developments since the completion of the work of the National Commission on Electronic Funds Transfer. Several working papers were prepared by OTA staff and contractors. These were reviewed by a special advisory panel on EFT representing financial, business, academic, and consumer interests. On the basis of that review, a revised and integrated paper was prepared.

OTA appreciates the participation of the advisory panelists, external reviewers, and others who helped bring this background paper to fruition. It is, however, solely the responsibility of OTA, not of those who so ably advised and assisted us in its preparation,

JOHN H. GIBBONS
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NOTE: The advisory panel provided advice and critique throughout the study, but does not necessarily approve, disapprove, or endorse the report, for which OTA assumes full responsibility.

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