

(2) Additional Features - Many (if not most) home routers are limited in their feature sets. Third-party software allows the owner to add useful features to augment and complement their network architectures.

(3) Hobby / Enjoyment value - Many computer and network engineers enjoy "souping up" their home networks simply because they can, and because they derive enjoyment from tinkering with their equipment.

(4) Research - Many computer and network engineers / researchers buy affordable equipment to test out new ideas and approaches to security, speed improvements, and other useful innovations.

Please do not implement any rules or policies which restrict the owner's ability to deploy third-party or open-source software / firmware on WiFi devices.

Thank you,

John Whitten

Please Do Not Reply To This Email.

Public Comments on Equipment Authorization and Electronic Labeling for Wireless Devices:=====

Title: Equipment Authorization and Electronic Labeling for Wireless Devices

FR Document Number: 2015-18402

RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Doug

Last Name: Fischer

Mailing Address: 28 Catalpa Road

City: Wilton

Country: United States

State or Province: CT

ZIP/Postal Code: 06897

Email Address: doug\_fischer@outlook.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Rules that prevent end-user modification of device software/firmware should not be implemented. The ability of users to modify device software is essential to wireless networking research, education, and fixing security issues and loopholes. In the past users have been able to fix issues with Wi-Fi drivers and router firmware to provide more reliable functionality, greater stability, and greater security; in some cases allowing these devices to function at all when they otherwise would not. Projects such as DDWRT would not be possible without the ability to modify router firmware. Additionally, billions are dollars are exchanged each year for products that require software modification. This proposal, while intending to target only radios, would have the additional unintended effect of preventing modification of whole devices due to the high degree of interconnection between the radio and the system-on-chip of the modern computer. This sets a dangerous precedent of disallowing modification of devices by their owners, and degrades the concept of ownership.

Thank you.

Rules that prevent end-user modification of device software/firmware should not be implemented. The ability of users to modify device software is essential to wireless networking research, education, and fixing security issues and loopholes. In the past users have been able to fix issues with Wi-Fi drivers and router firmware to provide more reliable functionality, greater stability, and greater security; in some cases allowing these devices to function at all when they otherwise would not. Projects such as DDWRT would not be possible without the ability to modify router firmware. Additionally, billions are dollars are exchanged each year for products that require software modification. This proposal, while intending to target only radios, would have the additional unintended effect of preventing modification of whole devices due to the high degree of interconnection between the radio and the system-on-chip of the modern computer. This sets a dangerous precedent of disallowing modification of devices by their owners, and degrades the concept of ownership.

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FR Document Number: 2015-18402

RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Michael

Last Name: Clark

Mailing Address: 2410 Larkspur Dr

City: Johnson City

Country: United States

State or Province: TN

ZIP/Postal Code: 37604

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: I am writing to express my opposition to provisions proposed in ET Docket No. 15-170; RM-11673: Equipment Authorization and Electronic Labeling for Wireless Devices. Specifically, I request that the FCC NOT implement any rules that restrict the ability of users of wireless devices from installing software of their choosing on equipment that they own. I work in the wireless device industry, and such rules would have numerous detrimental effects:

- 1) they would restrict research in the field, which relies on the ability for researchers to install their own software,
- 2) they would prevent users from fixing security flaws in their devices
- 3) they would have a large, negative effect on a broad segment of the wireless industry if companies cannot install their own software on wireless devices.

I respectfully request that these provisions be left out of any rulemaking, and that enforcement be used to counter any bad actors who abuse the wireless spectrum.

I am writing to express my opposition to provisions proposed in ET Docket No. 15-170; RM-11673: Equipment Authorization and Electronic Labeling for Wireless Devices. Specifically, I request that the FCC NOT implement any rules that restrict the ability of users of wireless devices from installing software of their choosing on equipment that they own. I work in the wireless device industry, and such rules would have numerous detrimental effects:

- 1) they would restrict research in the field, which relies on the ability for researchers to install their own software,
- 2) they would prevent users from fixing security flaws in their devices
- 3) they would have a large, negative effect on a broad segment of the wireless industry if companies cannot install their own software on wireless devices.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Brandon

Last Name: Clapp

Mailing Address: 2623 S Durango Dr. 203

City: Las Vegas

Country: United States

State or Province: NV

ZIP/Postal Code: 89117

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: I am respectfully asking the FCC to not implement rules that take away the ability of users to install the software of their choosing on their computing devices. Additional points of emphasis you should consider adding:

Wireless networking research depends on the ability of researchers to investigate and modify their devices. Americans need the ability to fix security holes in their devices when the manufacturer chooses to not do so. Users have in the past fixed serious bugs in their wifi drivers, which would be banned under the NPRM. Billions of dollars of commerce, such as secure wifi vendors, retail hotspot vendors, depends on the ability of users and companies to install the software of their choosing.

I am respectfully asking the FCC to not implement rules that take away the ability of users to install the software of their choosing on their computing devices. Additional points of emphasis you should consider adding:

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Jake

Last Name: Rubinstein

Mailing Address: 8 Sandy Point Rd

City: Lakeville

Country: United States

State or Province: MA

ZIP/Postal Code: 02347

Email Address: null

Organization Name: null

Comment: I specifically oppose these regulations due to point 20. Which will prevent me from fully owning, which includes modifying, my own possessions.

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FR Document Number: 2015-18402

RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: justin

Last Name: ram

Mailing Address: 400 willow ridge court

City: Fort worth

Country: United States

State or Province: TX

ZIP/Postal Code: 76103

Email Address: justin.ram@gmail.com

Organization Name: null

Comment: Dear FCC,

From my point of view you should be doing the exact opposite. It should be illegal for OEMs and ISPs to lock down devices they sell to consumers. The fact that my phone's bootloader is locked, preventing me from updating my phone's OS with security patches, is asinine. You should be suing and fining the companies that do this because it's entirely anti-consumer.

This would more than likely restrict installation of alternative operating systems on your PC, like GNU/Linux, OpenBSD, FreeBSD, etc. And also prevent research into advanced wireless technologies, like mesh networking and bufferbloat fixes.

Moreover it will ban installation of custom firmware on your Android phone and surely discourage the development of alternative free and open source WiFi firmware, like OpenWrt.

Imagine in case of disaster it will infringe upon the ability of amateur radio operators to create high powered mesh networks to assist emergency personnel.

It's not only Anti-Consumer but also prevent resellers from installing firmware on routers, such as for retail WiFi hotspots or VPNs, without agreeing to any condition a manufacturer so chooses.

Sincerely

Justin Ram

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Benjamin

Last Name: Sexton

Mailing Address: 4144 N Sheridan Rd

City: Chicago

Country: United States

State or Province: IL

ZIP/Postal Code: 60613-2066

Email Address: null

Organization Name: null

Comment: I strongly oppose the FCC's proposal to restrict any kind of modifications to defices with a mobile radio. If I purchase a device I shouldn't be banned from modifying the system by rooting or flashing a custom rom

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Thor

Last Name: Richmond

Mailing Address: Po box 694

City: Alderson

Country: United States

State or Province: WV

ZIP/Postal Code: 24910

Email Address: null

Organization Name: null

Comment: This is unacceptable. What purpose does it serve other than allowing companies to sell faulty products, then prevent users from modifying them. This heavily favors manufacturers over users. It also cripples innovation.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Kyle

Last Name: Hauptner

Mailing Address: 1071 9th Ave

City: Brockway

Country: United States

State or Province: PA

ZIP/Postal Code: 15801

Email Address: null

Organization Name: null

Comment: This is an anti-consumer proposition. This is a major loss to the consumers of these products and does not benefit us in any way. As consumers of a product, we are the owners of the devices we buy, and need to be free to modify or alter to fit our needs and wants. The producers of these products are exactly that, they simply manufacture and provide the devices to us, they are not the owners of the devices, we, the consumers are. This would be a huge loss to the power users of these devices, as we need to be free to modify or configure these devices to best fit our needs.

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Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Joe

Last Name: Balough

Mailing Address: 609 Virginia Ave Ext

City: Pittsburgh

Country: United States

State or Province: PA

ZIP/Postal Code: 15215

Email Address: jbb5044@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Hello,

First and foremost I would like to thank the FCC for making it possible for normal citizens like myself to become involved with the decision making process like this. It was possible when the FCC was debating Net Neutrality and I believe that the ultimate result from that was that the People were represented, not the telecoms and I really truly appreciate that.

As for the current proposed requirement for manufacturers to lock down devices that contain a radio of any type, I believe, is a bad idea. Manufacturers typically make devices and support them for maybe one year before no-longer supporting them. The way things are now, it is often possible for the owner to put custom firmware on the device after it is no longer supported to get more life from the device. With the proposed rules, this will no longer be possible.

I have on many occasions taken advantage of higher-quality open-source firmware for consumer routers in order to get more life out of them. I always try to use a piece of electronics for as long as possible so I do not like the idea of having to throw something away because it is no longer useful (because they are missing modern essential features, have serious security issues, etc).

Please consider the developers that breathe new life into these devices and do not create the new requirement.

Thank you

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Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Tim

Last Name: Masterbone

Mailing Address: 20 Memorial Ct APT 5L

City: Denville

Country: United States

State or Province: NJ

ZIP/Postal Code: 07834

Email Address: tbjr16@gmail.com

Organization Name: Abiotic Innovation

Comment: Please do not implement rules that take away the ability of users to install the software of their choosing on their computing devices. If there is no ability to modify devices, there will never be any developments made. We will be stuck technologically stagnant as a result of this. Wireless technologies will plateau when there is much more to be optimized and discovered. On top of this security becomes a big issue. When hardware gets outdated, updates will no longer be available. At this point it comes down to the consumer to repair the issue. With being locked out, the only way to fix a security hole is replacement, possibly adding more new security holes and adding to this country's growing e-waste problem. Just because things aren't buggy upon release doesn't mean they will stay working reliably, there will be conflicting updates of other modules causing instability in a lot of products.

Summary: I am a recent graduate of a Computer Engineering program at New Jersey Institute of Technology, I would be very sad to find that most of my education is now worthless since I will no longer be able to do anything Wifi based.

Please do not implement rules that take away the ability of users to install the software of their choosing on their computing devices. If there is no ability to modify devices, there will never be any developments made. We will be stuck technologically stagnant as a result of this. Wireless technologies will plateau when there is much more to be optimized and discovered. On top of this security becomes a big issue. When hardware gets outdated, updates will no longer be available. At this point it comes down to the consumer to repair the issue. With being locked out, the only way to fix a security hole is replacement, possibly adding more new security holes and adding to this country's growing e-waste problem. Just because things aren't buggy upon release doesn't mean they will stay working reliably, there will be conflicting updates of other modules causing instability in a lot of products.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: tom

Last Name: zerucha

Mailing Address: 262 n day

City: powell

Country: United States

State or Province: WY

ZIP/Postal Code: 82435

Email Address:

Organization Name: kg7vic

Comment: You should drop the section about requiring locks on the firmware for wifi devices. It either won't work, or will lock down broken security, malware, distributed attacks, etc. What if you had to physically replace your \$2000 car module every time it needed an update because it couldn't be updated electronically?

The law is already there about interference. Also, I can change antennas which will affect things more - or are you going to order those made tamper-proof?

Most routers are configurable for country. If I configure my router for Japan, it will allow frequencies illegal in the US - even if it is certified and tamper-resistant.

The problem is the firmware that actually tunes the radio is not changed - it is usually a blob or known, fixed settings. But that is less than 1% of the firmware. The rest is the operating system and user interface which you would lock down as well. This is like preventing you from changing the font on your word processor because you want to prevent tampering with the wifi driver.

You could simply require any firmware update to not change the characteristics of the radio, just like requiring me to set it for USA and not EU or JP - but that might be implicit in the law already.

What problem are you trying to solve? I've not heard of a single instance where firmware was modified that caused problems.

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Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: James

Last Name: Martin

Mailing Address: 94 Deer Run

City: Crossville

Country: United States

State or Province: TN

ZIP/Postal Code: 38571

Email Address: flash\_thirteen@yahoo.com

Organization Name:

Comment: This would stifle innovation and definitely set innovation back significantly in the technology arena in the United States should this pass. I'm strongly against any additional regulation, this one in particular is alarming as it would limit technology and wireless devices from being updated by individuals who innovate well beyond what industry is capable of doing.

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Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Mitchell

Last Name: Womack

Mailing Address: 11590 Rocky Point Rd

City: Tremonton

Country: United States

State or Province: UT

ZIP/Postal Code: 84337

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: While I agree that the FCC intended to fulfill its objective with this proposed rule, in the long run banning the change of firmware or OS on electronic devices greatly hinders many facets of the tech world, and does little to protect citizens. The cost of what is lost far out ways any real benefit gained by this ruling. Please do not pass this proposal as it currently stands.

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Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Edwin

Last Name: Anonymous

Mailing Address: 122 Knoll drive

City: Granville

Country: United States

State or Province: OH

ZIP/Postal Code: 43023

Email Address: null

Organization Name: null

Comment: This proposal is completely unnecessary and can only serve to hurt consumers. The fact that it has even come this far is terrifying.

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Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Matthew

Last Name: Shears

Mailing Address: 930 N. Shaffer St.

City: Orange

Country: United States

State or Province: CA

ZIP/Postal Code: 92867

Email Address: matthewshears@gmail.com

Organization Name: null

Comment: Please NO!

This is a bad law that punishes consumers and hobbyist who like to customize or tinker with their own phones. When I purchase a phone, it is MY PHONE. I should be able to install any software I want. Be it operating system, firmware or even just the ringtone.

This piece of legislation in its current form would make it illegal for owners of smart phones to load their own operating systems on the phone. Not only does this defy all logic as far as who owns and has control over their own property, it is also obviously a a method of control by large telcoms so they can maintain control over consumers.

Most smartphones sold now have hardware features that are INTENTIONALLY CRIPPLED by the cell phone carriers with the intent of the customer paying an extra fee to unlock a feature that they've already purchased on a device that is already owned by the customer.

It is very obvious that this legislation's intent is to give control to these corporations so that they may extort and exploite the consumers.

Please NO!

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Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Erik

Last Name: Larsen

Mailing Address: 1426 South 6th Street

City: Mount Vernon

Country: United States

State or Province: WA

ZIP/Postal Code: 98237

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Preventing interference with weather radar and the like, is all well and good, but instead of using a "big stick" solution, use a "small stick" solution? Perhaps we should require the manufacturers to lock down the RADIO portions of their devices instead of locking down the entire device? I don't think this draconian solution to fix a problem is an appropriate answer. Remember the law of unintended consequences. An unscrupulous company will figure out a way to take advantage of what the FCC is doing.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Larry

Last Name: Kluger

Mailing Address: 141 Warrington Dr

City: Rochester

Country: United States

State or Province: NY

ZIP/Postal Code: 14618

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Please do NOT do this! It will limit legitimate experimentation. It will only send the bad guys underground.

It will only hurt honest people.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Mike

Last Name: Luban

Mailing Address: 12922 W Voltaire Ave

City: El Mirage

Country: United States

State or Province: AZ

ZIP/Postal Code: 85335

Email Address: nerd@cox.net

Organization Name: Delta Dental

Comment: WORST IDEA EVER

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Petko

Last Name: Bordjukov

Mailing Address: bordjukov+fcc@gmail.com

City: Sofia

Country: Bulgaria

State or Province: Sofia

ZIP/Postal Code: 1000

Email Address:

Organization Name: init Lab

Comment: Hello,

I respectfully ask the FCC to not implement rules that take away the ability of users to install the software of their choosing on their computing devices.

\* Wireless networking research depends on the ability of researchers to investigate and modify their devices.

\* Users need the ability to fix security holes in their devices when the manufacturer chooses to not do so.

\* Users have in the past fixed serious bugs in their wifi drivers, which would be banned under the NPRM.

\* Billions of dollars of commerce, such as secure wifi vendors, retail hotspot vendors, depends on the ability of users and companies to install the software of their choosing.

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Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Neel

Last Name: Chauhan

Mailing Address: 28 Hallocks Run

City: Somers

Country: United States

State or Province: NY

ZIP/Postal Code: 10589-2826

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Dear FCC,

The main problem with "Equipment Authorization and Electronic Labeling for Wireless Devices" is that it will hurt technological innovation in the United States. A lot of technological innovation happened because many electronics, including ones which had "wireless" capability weren't locked down, such as Wireless routers, Android smartphones, and Laptop computers. Because of this, there have been many alternative operating systems and firmwares for wireless routers, Android smartphones, and Laptop computers which have features that the OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) may not implement in the factory, such as additional speed, battery-saving technologies, privacy, and security.

Outside of hurting technological innovation if electronics with "wireless" capability were locked down, a black market of electronics will appear. People who use alternative firmwares and operating systems on devices with "wireless" capability for legitimate uses, such as privacy or security, may turn to the black market for electronics from countries like China and Russia with "wireless" capability which aren't locked down. For example, if a wireless router sold in the United States was locked down, many Americans who wish to modify their wireless router to add features will turn towards the black market for wireless routers which are unlocked.

This will also hurt the sale of American electronics with "wireless" capability abroad. People from other parts of the world, like Canada, Europe, and Asia who wish to modify their electronics with "wireless" capability may end up downright avoiding American brand names, therefore hurting the American electronics industry, and helping European and Asian electronic brands, especially brands which do not sell to the United States.

Thanks,

Neel Chauhan

===

<https://www.neelc.org/>

Please Do Not Reply To This Email.

Public Comments on Equipment Authorization and Electronic Labeling for Wireless Devices:=====

Title: Equipment Authorization and Electronic Labeling for Wireless Devices

FR Document Number: 2015-18402

RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Dylan

Last Name: Hager

Mailing Address: 1800 Washington Ave S

City: Minneapolis

Country: United States

State or Province: MN

ZIP/Postal Code: 55454

Email Address: dylan.hager@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Dear Sir or Madam,

I feel this regulation would really would set us back. So many innovative technologies come from being able to do non malicious loading of new OS's firmware etc to devices. The Manufactures have a small subset of the developers in the world and not all the creative minds. Cool things such as innovations in how to use smart phone come from people being able to load their own firmware and also with routers and network equipment. Giving people access to this equipment has enabled us to advance as society in most uses these are not malicious and not trying to cause harm. We as society should be trying to find out how things work so we can make them better. A lot of the cool things you do with these devices is usually borrowed from the community and through open source projects. Working for software company we borrow a lot of code from the community because generally we can not hire everyone to work on a project and rely a lot on the community to help us fill gaps and holes we do not have the expertise to solve. So I say please do not restrict access to these devices and if law is to outline laws that define xyz malicious activity and so if someone is found in violation can be help accountable. Please do not paint with such a wide brush stroke this really will block creativity, innovation and education. I think this is pretty core to being human is wanting to improve on ourselves and move forward.

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Public Comments on Equipment Authorization and Electronic Labeling for Wireless Devices:=====

Title: Equipment Authorization and Electronic Labeling for Wireless Devices

FR Document Number: 2015-18402

RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Ken

Last Name: Wills

Mailing Address: 3203 Northbrook Drive

City: Middleton

Country: United States

State or Province: WI

ZIP/Postal Code: 53562

Email Address: ken@zaptillion.net

Organization Name:

Comment: I would respectfully like to ask that these rules not remove the ability of users to install the software of their choosing on their computing devices.

Wireless networking research depends on the ability of researchers to investigate and modify their devices.

Americans need the ability to fix security holes in their devices when the manufacturer chooses to not do so.

Users have in the past fixed serious bugs in their wifi drivers, which would be banned under the NPRM.

Billions of dollars of commerce, such as secure wifi vendors, retail hotspot vendors, depends on the ability of users and companies to install the software of their choosing.

Personally, I have always run free and open source alternatives when available, and since I own the devices in question, I feel it is my right to continue to do so.

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FR Document Number: 2015-18402

RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: George

Last Name: Walker

Mailing Address: 1706 Dewitt Ave. Alexandria, VA 22301

City: Alexandria

Country: United States

State or Province: VA

ZIP/Postal Code: 22301

Email Address: georgewalkeriv@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: The open source software community has been an instrumental and innovative partner in making Part 15 wildly successful (e.g. WiFi utilization).

Please don't lock them out; doing so would inhibit a wellspring of innovation that has been instrumental in enabling last-mile connectivity to under-served, rural areas here and abroad.

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FR Document Number: 2015-18402

RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Nile

Last Name: Coy

Mailing Address: 918 east 4th Street

City: Casper

Country: United States

State or Province: WY

ZIP/Postal Code: 82601

Email Address: nilecoy@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: I am strongly opposed to this measure as I feel it will deprive us of the liberty to run the software of our choice on our devices. As mobile devices become a bigger part of our everyday life, the ability to run free and open source operating systems may be one of our only options to preserve our privacy and freedom.

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FR Document Number: 2015-18402

RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Fabien

Last Name: Royer

Mailing Address: 15817 NE 66th Pl.

City: Redmond

Country: United States

State or Province: WA

ZIP/Postal Code: 98052

Email Address: froyer67@gmai.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Hi,

Please, DO NOT implement rules that take away the ability of users to install the software of their choosing on their computing devices.

Please consider the following aspects:

1. Wireless networking research depends on the ability of researchers to investigate and modify their devices.
2. Americans need the ability to fix security holes in their devices when the manufacturer chooses to not do so.
3. Users have in the past fixed serious bugs in their wifi drivers, which would be banned under the NPRM.
4. Billions of dollars of commerce, such as secure wifi vendors, retail hotspot vendors, depends on the ability of users and companies to install the software of their choosing.

Thank you,

-Fabien.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Laurent

Last Name: Bercot

Mailing Address: 5, rue Olivier Noyer

City: Paris

Country: France

State or Province: N/A

ZIP/Postal Code: 75014

Email Address: ska-ffii@skarnet.org

Organization Name: skarnet.com

Comment:

Please do not implement rules that take away the ability of users to install the software of their choosing on their computing devices. In particular, please take the following points into account:

- Wireless networking research depends on the ability of researchers to investigate and modify their devices.
- People need the ability to fix security holes in their devices when the manufacturer chooses to not do so.
- Users have in the past fixed serious bugs in their wifi drivers, which would be banned under the NPRM.
- Billions of dollars of commerce, such as secure wifi vendors and retail hotspot vendors, depend on the ability of users and companies to install the software of their choosing.

Thank you for making the right choice.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: John

Last Name: Ptacek

Mailing Address: 620 E Parkway Blvd

City: Appleton

Country: United States

State or Province: WI

ZIP/Postal Code: 54911

Email Address: jptacek@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: I encourage the FCC to no implement rules that enable consumers to install software on computing devices that they have purchased. in my house, i have update my router to provide more functionality using third party software (WRT) to lock down inappropriate Internet sites. The proposed changes would not allow this. It also would leave me with a security hole, since my original router had a security bug which resulted in my installing WRT

Thanks!

John

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Julia

Last Name: Longtin

Mailing Address: 2600 Sherman Ave NW, apartment 203

City: Washington

Country: United States

State or Province: DC

ZIP/Postal Code: 20001

Email Address: julia.longtin@gmail.com

Organization Name: HacDC

Comment: As a contributor to OpenWRT, Hacker, and Municipal Wireless Administrator, I am appauled. This is not being done to defend anything but commercial interests. It limits the freedoms of people who "own" their hardware.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Daniel

Last Name: Nelson

Mailing Address: 340 S Lemon Ave #9640

City: Walnut

Country: United States

State or Province: CA

ZIP/Postal Code: 91789

Email Address: packetcollision@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: The decision to restrict the updating of firmware on devices such as routers will create a significant risk to consumers, since it will mean that they no longer have an option to switch to 3rd party firmware that is more secure. 1st party firmware is often insecure and rarely updated, and adding additional restrictions is only going to make more people's routers get infected with malware that steals their data or is used for attacks.

In addition, 3rd party firmware provides an important area of differentiation of for manufacturers, and allows users with specialized use-cases the flexibility they need. It is simple to restrict, in hardware, the power and frequencies of a wireless chipset, in such a way that a user cannot remove the restrictions. I am opposed to mandating even such hardware restrictions, because they unnecessarily limits lawful use by licensed operators, such as use by amateur radio operators, but at least a hardware-level restriction would not have the worst repercussions in regards to stifling innovation, reducing competition, and endangering users.

Please remove the restrictions on firmware from this proposal.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Michael

Last Name: Varrieur

Mailing Address: 283 Charge Pond Rd.

City: Wareham

Country: United States

State or Province: MA

ZIP/Postal Code: 02571

Email Address: mikevarrieur@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Forcing firmware to be locked down and not allowing open source firmware on routers is exposing everyone with a consumer internet facing appliance to be forced to rely on hardware vendors to update their firmwares for the lifetime of the router. I think we have seen over and over again in practice that this does not happen and will never happen.

Companies like Linksys and Netgear make their money from the router sale, and nothing else. They have no reason to continue supporting the device once it's in a household. On the other hand, open source projects like DD-WRT, OpenWRT, Tomato, etc. are consistently releasing new versions of their firmwares with bugs fixed, making the internet safer for everyone.

There are so many exploits for consumer quality (and business quality) routers that it's not even funny. Forcing hardware vendors to shut out the ability for the consumer to make themselves safer is a really horrific idea.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Noah

Last Name: Harris

Mailing Address: 2240 NE 14th Ave. #2

City: Portland

Country: United States

State or Province: OR

ZIP/Postal Code: 97212

Email Address: nharris@openmailbox.org

Organization Name:

Comment: I am opposed to prohibiting consumer-installed firmware. If passed, this would remove control of a device from the consumer and prohibit them from securing their devices should they choose to do so. I use custom firmwares in my routers to provide the security and functionality which is left out of most routers because a company wanted to cut costs. This regulation is at best poorly thought out and dangerous to America's internet security.

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Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Ben

Last Name: Hass

Mailing Address: 630 Princeton Pl NW

City: Washington

Country: United States

State or Province: DC

ZIP/Postal Code: 20010

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Bad. Bad. Bad. Bad. Bad.

This law does not benefit the people of the U.S., only companies.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: David

Last Name: Levy

Mailing Address: 6008 NW 96th St

City: Johnston

Country: United States

State or Province: IA

ZIP/Postal Code: 50131

Email Address: Dtlevy@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Dear FCC, I write this comment to ask you NOT to implement rules that take away the ability of users to install the software of their choosing on their computing devices.

Additional points:

- Wireless networking research depends on the ability of researchers to investigate and modify their devices.
- Americans need the ability to fix security holes in their devices when the manufacturer chooses to not do so.
- Users have in the past fixed serious bugs in their wifi drivers, which would be banned under the NPRM.
- Billions of dollars of commerce, such as secure wifi vendors, retail hotspot vendors, depends on the ability of users and companies to install the software of their choosing.

Thank you,  
David Levy

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Ivan

Last Name: Moses

Mailing Address: 1703 Madison ave

City: Austin

Country: United States

State or Province: TX

ZIP/Postal Code: 78757

Email Address: ivanmoses@grandecom.net

Organization Name:

Comment: Please do not implement these measures that will stifle innovation, and lock consumers out of the devices they have paid for. Wireless networking research depends on the ability of researchers to investigate and modify their devices.

Americans need the ability to fix security holes in their devices when the manufacturer chooses to not do so.

Users have in the past fixed serious bugs in their wifi drivers, which would be banned under the NPRM.

Billions of dollars of commerce, such as secure wifi vendors, retail hotspot vendors, depends on the ability of users and companies to install the software of their choosing.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Vince

Last Name: Coffeen

Mailing Address: 2546 Johnson Street NE

City: Minneapolis

Country: United States

State or Province: MN

ZIP/Postal Code: 55418

Email Address: vince.coffeen@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Locking down radio equipment so that devices cannot be altered is a very backwards. This goes against all logic and reason for a safe vibrant electronics community. Do not in any way go forward with this.

Let me remind you that the United States is a nation of people; not corporate interests; please remember that when making rules for people.

We the people who use electronics NEED the ability to use them freely without artificial restriction.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Allen

Last Name: Woodruff

Mailing Address: 7517 Inglewood Road

City: Burlington

Country: United States

State or Province: NE

ZIP/Postal Code: 27215

Email Address: baudeagle@juno.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Please allow for an individual or individuals to continue to manipulate the hardware and software portions of the WIFI devices that they own. If this voids the manufacturer's warranties then that is OK with me. I have no problem if the FCC restricts the use of the frequencies that these devices operate at and restricts individuals from operating outside that spectrum without the proper licensing. However, the FCC should also consider opening up additional frequencies for general purpose use buy the general population and not restrict these to the company with the highest bid. Considerations for the American public should override and take precedence over corporate interests when limitations on a specific RF spectrum are being considered.

Please do not restrict an individuals manipulation of their own property (Routers, Modems or other RF type of devices)by either physical means or electronic means so long as this does not interfere with the laws of the United States and the frequencies that the FCC provides for public use.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Luke

Last Name: Waldron

Mailing Address: 2137 w twin willows dr

City: Appleton

Country: United States

State or Province: WI

ZIP/Postal Code: 54914

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: I have worked for 11 years in the field of in-home computer service, and being able to modify devices that include a wireless radio has been essential to providing quality service to my clients. The proposed rule appears to restrict people's ability to install alternative operating systems such as Linux on PCs, or alternate firmwares such as DDWRT or TomatoUSB on routers. This rule would do nothing to protect me as a citizen, consumer, or service provider, and would only serve to strengthen the already unreasonable degree of control that manufacturers hold over the devices we purchase and utilize.

I beseech you to reconsider, and implore you to make rules that go the other way, that forbid manufacturers from PREVENTING end users from modifying their devices, rather than leaving the people you serve at the mercy of corporations.

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Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: mark

Last Name: van kingsley

Mailing Address: 17 overlook drive

City: sidney

Country: United States

State or Province: NY

ZIP/Postal Code: 13838

Email Address: mark@vankingsley.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Please do NOT restrict me from using my devices in the manner I see fit! The idea that all my devices should be a "walled garden" is not something I look forward to.

Please Do Not Reply To This Email.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: David

Last Name: Zurat

Mailing Address: 726 Fair St

City: Harrisburg

Country: United States

State or Province: PA

ZIP/Postal Code: 17104

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Please do not disable consumers ability to use the software of their choosing. Wireless networking research depends on the ability of researchers to investigate and modify their devices. Americans need the ability to fix security holes in their devices when the manufacturer chooses to not do so. Users have in the past fixed serious bugs in their wifi drivers, which would be banned under the NPRM. Billions of dollars of commerce, such as secure wifi vendors, retail hotspot vendors, depends on the ability of users and companies to install the software of their choosing. Thank you for listening.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Jay

Last Name: Andres

Mailing Address: 7373 se Tibbests st

City: Portland

Country: United States

State or Province: OR

ZIP/Postal Code: 97202

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: If you want the USA to be the forefront of technology then you should not allow these restrictions. The ability to modify things you own, and create new and better devices should not be taken away. Someone famous once said, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.'

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Michael

Last Name: DeMartino

Mailing Address: 3585 Hylan Boulevard

City: Staten Island

Country: United States

State or Province: NY

ZIP/Postal Code: 10308

Email Address: mdemartino1991@gmail.com

Organization Name: Concerned Consumer

Comment: This type of legislation is blatantly anti-consumer and I'm frankly surprised that such a thing would even be considered.

The ability to modify and deconstruct products is a fundamental right that comes with ownership. If I own a product I should have the ability to make any modifications I deem appropriate (within the letter of law).

What the FCC is essentially proposing is the equivalent of banning an individual from looking under the hood of their own car. This is genuinely that ludicrous of a new rule. If I am a computer hardware engineer and I am trying to develop my skills or create a novel technologies, how am I able to do that if you are effectively banning the companies from making their products internals accessible?

The ability to modify the internal workings of a computer/phone/router/etc is basic. It isn't just about the consumer having sovereignty over the objects they purchase but also about the open-source development of novel technological advancements.

The computer giant - Apple Computers - started out of a garage in someone's house. Do you honestly think that locking down the internal workings of computer components isn't going to prevent the next "Apple" or "Microsoft" from coming about?

What you are effectively doing with this legislation is stifling innovation. Computer technology is recycled, dissected, and perfected by people who open up these products and examine them. If you block the consumer from doing this you aren't just stealing a basic right from the consumer, you are preventing a generation of future computer engineers from developing their skills.

I implore you to please reconsider this legislation.

Attached to this document is a list of companies which started out of the garages. These are tech giants. Do not pretend that you aren't going to harm innovation with this legislation.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Jared

Last Name: Gore

Mailing Address: 650 Poydras St

City: New Orleans

Country: United States

State or Province: LA

ZIP/Postal Code: 70130

Email Address: jgore@z-comm.com

Organization Name: Zehnder Communications

Comment: Don't lock me out of my own device. I paid for it with money I earned, there's no reason I shouldn't be able to modify it's software ESPECIALLY when manufacturers are notoriously lax about security on Small Office/Residential routers. By putting firmwares that are open source and regularly audited, I can save my friends and family the trouble of a device that isn't secure by default. If anything you should be going after the manufacturers to make their devices more secure.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Scott

Last Name: Rossillo

Mailing Address: 282 Auburn Avenue

City: Shirley

Country: United States

State or Province: NY

ZIP/Postal Code: 11967

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: As a citizen of the U.S. I am absolutely appalled at this proposal. Not only does it infringe upon the fourth amendment rights of all U.S. citizens but it infringes on the rights of the companies that manufacture these products. Locking out citizens from open source software is a gross abuse of government power and this bill needs to be stopped. There is no substantial reason for this proposal other than "the government thinks it is best." Last time I checked the U.S. government derives its power from the people and this proposal is a spit in the face to all American citizens. U.S. citizens have a right to this software and taking this away is an act of tyranny.

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RIN:

Publish Date: 8/6/2015 12:00:00 AM

Submitter Info:

First Name: Bill

Last Name: Healey

Mailing Address: 1211 S Prairie Ave

City: Chicago

Country: United States

State or Province: IL

ZIP/Postal Code: 60605

Email Address: brulez@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: It is important for citizens to have the right to legally modify the software running on their computing devices. The independent development community has used this freedom to find and fix numerous bugs, security holes, and even provide open source drivers for hardware and wifi devices. Please allow that important work to continue legally.