

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: Jaren

Last Name: Fox

Mailing Address: 13211 S 181st Ave

City: Goodyear

Country: United States

State or Province: AZ

ZIP/Postal Code: 85338

Email Address: jarenfox@hotmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Dear FCC,

Please don't 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.

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.

-Jaren Fox

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RIN:

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: JAMES

Last Name: MEYERS

Mailing Address: 3107 CUMBERLAND AVENUE

City: WICHITA FALLS

Country: United States

State or Province: TX

ZIP/Postal Code: 76309

Email Address: jamesmeyers58@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: I feel that, once a consumer spends money and obtains a physical object, such as a cell phone, that object and everything contained within, be it hardware or software, should then be the sole property of that person. Restricting a user's right to install different software on a device solely because it has the potential to communicate with another device in any way goes against the rights of that user.

If I buy an iPhone, I should be able to install whatever compatible programs I want on it. Furthermore, I should be able to use any compatible hardware with it. I should be able to use the device how I see fit, because I spent my own money on it. I don't buy a phone with the intention of 'renting' or 'leasing' it. It's a telephone. It can browse the internet. Those abilities shouldn't mean that I can't use the device in whatever way I choose to use it.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Anthony

Last Name: Kirby

Mailing Address: 6313 Willowood Lane

City: Alexandria

Country: United States

State or Province: VA

ZIP/Postal Code: 22310

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Public servants of the Federal Communications Commission,

It is with great concern that I write you today regarding the latest proposal to restrict free use and research by private citizens of alternative wireless and computing systems.

The ability for private citizens alongside, but not in conjunction with, federally approved researchers to conduct their own research and use of any and all methods of electronic communication is paramount to the future progress of technological advancement of this very necessary field of technology.

On the subject of liberty it is not at all acceptable that, given we live in a free society, our use of technology should be dependent upon federal approval of certain manufacturer's technology nor should our separate but intersecting third party devices be limited by some arbitrarily concocted regulations. It is not within the federal government's powers or mandate to codify specific software and hardware solely on the basis that it lies outside standard mainstream consumer products. Further, information security is paramount in today's world and often alternative operating systems offer a higher degree of internal systems security not found in most popular and conventional forms of consumer products. The FCC could find itself in quite a precarious position should a large number of citizens find their data in the hands of unscrupulous individuals which could have been averted were they able to use alternative technology systems but were denied due to the FCC's own regulatory measures.

Americans must also be able to secure their own data when the companies we rely on abstain from patching their own security flaws. That the FCC would be considering a proposal which could leave private citizens at the mercy of individuals operating outside the boundaries of the law is worrisome to say the least and in the past it has often been the case that privacy gaps and security flaws in wireless hardware which transmits sensitive data has been fixed as a result of the efforts of private individuals. This and many similar actions would be banned under the NPRM.

The FCC may also run afoul of the First Amendment to the Constitution by limiting those citizens who seek to use alternative methods and hardware to transmit wireless data as a matter of political principals and the desire to express political dissent through legitimate consumption practices. The NPRM would stifle this very legitimate speech, protected under the First Amendment, and may find itself on the wrong side of Constitutional Law and Supreme Court precedent.

I hope my words have not been met by deaf ears and the Federal Communications Commission takes seriously the implications of this very dangerous precedent being set should this regulatory measure come into effect. I am confident in the FCC's ability to make the right choice by setting aside this regulatory measure and hanging it up in the "extremely

bad" category of regulatory ideas. Thank you for reading this piece of information.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Fuck

Last Name: You

Mailing Address: If it were up to you I'd be homeless

City: Moon Base 3

Country: XX

State or Province: The Moon

ZIP/Postal Code: 1

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: So you want to make changes that will affect the entire world but fail to mention it outside the US? You people need to get your heads out of your asses and stop trying to hinder development of new technologies.

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Tommi

Last Name: Jrv

Mailing Address: Kirkkotie 41

City: Luvia

Country: Finland

State or Province: Satakunta

ZIP/Postal Code: 29100

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Please do not implement rules that take away the ability of users to install the software of their choosing on their computing devices.

As all computers are capable of this, this would lock them out. Under this rule it would mean that you cannot modify your PC or change it's OS to anything else than what it came with as that would be modifying it. This is not good for anyone.

The computer industry is rather large and is largely dependent on people who build their own computers and then modify them. This would make modifying impossible. The computer industry would take a hit from this.

Another point I'd like to make is that this would make it harder for amateur radio operators to aid in emergency situations as they would not be allowed to modify their radios to suit their needs.

Users have in the past fixed serious bugs in their Wifi drivers, which would be banned under the NPRM. User have fixed bugs in drivers when the manufacturer chooses not to. This has allowed end users to make the most of the hardware they're given by fixing it.

Also Wireless networking research depends on the ability of researchers to investigate and modify their devices. If researchers are not allowed to modify their devices research into Wireless networking will essentially stop.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Ian

Last Name: Kelling

Mailing Address: 7012 155th Pl NE

City: Redmond

Country: United States

State or Province: WA

ZIP/Postal Code: 98052

Email Address: ian@iankelling.org

Organization Name: None

Comment: I strongly disagree with the proposed software security rules as noted in 80 FR 46906 and elsewhere. If software used to control RF parameters can never be upgraded, by the manufacturer or anyone else, there is no problem, because it makes no difference to the user that it's a program rather than a circuit. However, when that is not the case, requirements that prevent modification of the software controlling the RF parameters will necessarily expand far beyond preventing unauthorized RF parameters to the general operation of the device and prevent a vast range of extremely useful and worthwhile modifications. Proprietary software which users cannot modify prevents innovation and freedom, and is an unethical form of control. To understand more, I recommend reading these and many more essays on this site: <http://www.gnu.org/philosophy/proprietary.html> Note: <http://www.gnu.org/philosophy/free-software-even-more-important.html>.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Marius

Last Name: Gnapfe

Mailing Address: gnapfe@yahoo.de

City: Irenental

Country: Austria

State or Province: Lower Austria

ZIP/Postal Code: 3011

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: I respectfully want to ask the FCC to not implement rules which restrict the installation of free software

A lock down on the software will cause following issues:

1. These rules will not only affect products sold in the USA, but also products sold over the rest of the world by the same manufacturers.
2. The hardware has to be used with the software provided by the manufacturer. There will most likely not be a way to check integrity of the software for the end user. Which will make it ways harder for pen testers to find vulnerabilities. There is no possibility to use free software which would make it much more easy to check for vulnerabilities.
3. Since only the manufacturers can modify the software, all consumers will depend on them to fix bugs and vulnerabilities. There are a lot of people in the free software movement which can and want to keep their hardware safe by using their own or others free software.
4. After discontinuing the product and thus stopping support by the manufacturer a lot of these devices will still be in service, some even for years.  
Any existing software bugs or backdoors are very likely not to be fixed by the manufacturer from this point on. It is not possible to close software bugs or backdoors without the manufacturers help.  
This will cause a lot of devices vulnerable, all over the world.
5. Products will have a shorter life cycle which will increase the electronic waste and increase the use of limited resources.
6. Customers will be forced to buy new products in shorter periods to keep their systems up to the technical standards.
7. It will limit the installation of custom firmware on Android smartphones. Which increases the need to buy products in shorter periods, increased the amount of electronic waste per consumer and the need of limited resources.  
End users which keep their unit up to date by installing custom software and most likely being safe against recently discovered vulnerabilities will not be able to do so.

Because of these points I respectfully ask the FCC to not force the manufacturers to lock down software on their devices.

Sincerely  
Marius Gnapfe

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Nathan

Last Name: Hendrix

Mailing Address: 205 Bollywood Drive

City: Yonkers

Country: United Kingdom

State or Province: Kentucky

ZIP/Postal Code: 10305

Email Address: poop@ass.gov

Organization Name: This Awful Country

Comment: This is a huge threat to mesh nets, anonymity, open source, and maintaining control over the devices we all buy!

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Jared

Last Name: Kasl

Mailing Address: 9803 N Edison St

City: Portland

Country: United States

State or Province: OR

ZIP/Postal Code: 97203

Email Address: nightshade64@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: I am writing in regards to the issue of users having the ability to install the software of choice on computing devices they own. I rely on being able to fix security holes on my devices quickly and many times the manufacturer will not patch these until months or even years later. Losing this important ability to fix these security issues in a timely manner will affect me and millions of Americans in a negative manner.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Darryl

Last Name: Malcomb

Mailing Address: 1200 Sunset Rd

City: Casselberry

Country: United States

State or Province: FL

ZIP/Postal Code: 32707-4039

Email Address: audguy@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Please do not impose these rules, there are many of us that use 3rd party firmware replacements to get the most out of our hardware. Limiting hardware like this would be as stupid as limiting cars to 5 MPH because someone could get hurt.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Frank

Last Name: Tursi

Mailing Address: 10229 Plymouth Point

City: Bellevue

Country: United States

State or Province: NE

ZIP/Postal Code: 68123

Email Address: frankjtursi+federalregister@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: This proposal is another act that would only benefit private corporations and take away rights from the people. A person should be able to do what they will with their device without constraint. Going through with this only adds proprietary software that threatens mesh networks and the anonymity of the people using the devices. As we come upon a new age of computer technology and the use of the internet, the FCC must account the importance of the internet and the people's personal privacy. We are devolving into an age where security trumps liberty and privacy when ideally they should go hand in hand. It is unconstitutional to give the people a product, lock up and hide it's contents in proprietary software, and record people's private information and sell it to third parties. This proposal goes against two key elements that the FCC should be protecting. The \*liberty\* to create modifications to products that are then owned, this includes hardware and software. Along with the self \*privacy\* of the people, too many companies actively collect data information about people and sell it effectively along with governments such as the NSA being able to look into the people's computers, networks, and telephone records without a warrant. This unconstitutional breaking and entering is due to the vague classification the FCC has put on these subjects such as WiFi being open due to the airways being free as considered. For these reason not only do I full-heartedly disagree with this proposal, but I also wish for the FCC to create or edit their classifications to protect the liberty and privacy of the people instead of the private businesses that are lobbying their bought-and-paid-for representatives so that they may protect their interests.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Robert

Last Name: Bauder

Mailing Address: 141 S Cedar St

City: Hazleton

Country: United States

State or Province: PA

ZIP/Postal Code: 18201

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: I believe the ability of individuals to install and utilize the software of their own choosing as well as modify and make adjustments to said software in the case of manufacturer neglect, is something that should be protected.

The modding culture within the tech community has done some amazing things for consumers everywhere. Modders have fixed critical driver issues in ways that would be banned under NPRM.

This bill seems fundamentally flawed and seems laughably detached from the interests of tech consumers. I understand to an extent why it exists and is written the way it is; and I can see why a bill needs to be put in place, but this is too poorly constructed to be of use.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Josh

Last Name: Parker

Mailing Address: 1172 Calinto Drive

City: New York

Country: United States

State or Province: NY

ZIP/Postal Code: 10037

Email Address: eurolite@gmail.com

Organization Name: Sorry, I am not a rich company who can afford to buy people out for personal gain..

Comment: Please stop selling out to the highest bidder, this is CLEARLY anti-consumer bought and paid for by the private companies / the only ones who can possibly benefit from this ludicrous proposal...

This should have been laughed at and thrown out... The fact you are ever considering this shows how money can buy even the FCC...

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Ji

Last Name: Sejkora

Mailing Address: Na Korunce 313

City: Prague

Country: Czech Republic

State or Province: Prague

ZIP/Postal Code: 190 11

Email Address: sejseloid@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: I believe that everybody should be able to do anything with their hardware, of course with the exception of misusing reserved radio frequencies and such.

Everybody should be allowed to fix security flaws of their hardware. Everybody should be allowed to write their own software for hardware or use any software that is available.

It is also very important for education as the ability to tinker with hardware helps people understand it better.

It should be illegal to lock down hardware, not the other way around.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Shawn

Last Name: McKeever

Mailing Address: 1620 Serenity Dr

City: Pflugerville

Country: United States

State or Province: TX

ZIP/Postal Code: 78660

Email Address: atomicape@msn.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Please do not pass any laws, rules, regulations, etc. that will limit now or in the future my ability to modify a computer, smart phone, or any other device with a wireless component. As free citizens, we should be able to modify, change, or remove any part or function of a device that we payed our hard earned money for. Do not limit the ability of technology researchers to modify devices for the purposes of research. Do not limit the ability of hobbieists and amateurs to make changes and upgrades to their projects. Making changes to hardware and software is an essential need for anyone trying to learn about or innovate on existing technology. Innovation is essential for growth in technology and restricting free access and ability to modify electronics is both wrong and short sighted. Killing tech innovation will not helps our country compete in a global market. Limiting educational options will not help our children continue to gain tech and science literacy. Making restrictions that only serve the needs of large corporations that manufacture wireless devices is anti-consumer and could damage the free market in a variety of ways. Your office within the government did such a good thing earlier this year when you decided to make Net Neutrality a reality. Don't go in the opposite direction and hand down heavy handed restrictions on what American consumers can do with their possessions, their money, and their time. Keep modification of all wireless computers and devices open and free. Thank you for you time and consideration.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Neill

Last Name: Young

Mailing Address: 109 Springhill Dr

City: Bardstown

Country: United States

State or Province: KY

ZIP/Postal Code: 40004

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: please do not require anything that has an antennae to be unmodifiable. if a consumer ourchases something they should be able to do with it as they will.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: no

Last Name: no

Mailing Address: no

City: no

Country: Oman

State or Province: no

ZIP/Postal Code: no

Email Address: no

Organization Name: no

Comment: No.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Brian

Last Name: Chrzanowski

Mailing Address: 16729 Forestview Dr.

City: Clinton Township

Country: United States

State or Province: MI

ZIP/Postal Code: 48036

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: I believe that everyone up at the top of the FCC is out of communication with what America needs. The more open and free that items are, the more innovation can be had, and the United States can move into an era of having the most intelligent people maintaining the superiority we somehow have gained. If you require manufacturers to lock down computing devices, the world will become something drawn out of 1984. Let the users decide what to do with the property they paid for.

Another note:

Have you noticed how many security holes are left by manufacturers, or microsoft because the big companies are too lazy to fix them, only to find that later certain holes are exploited and mass chaos is rained down? If users and researchers cannot find these bugs, how will users, the people of your country, remain safe? I ask you personally to not restrict users any more than companies do.

Sincerely, Brian Chrzanowski

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Zak

Last Name: Taccardi

Mailing Address: 12110 Heather Way

City: Herndon

Country: United States

State or Province: VA

ZIP/Postal Code: 20170

Email Address: ztaccardi@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: I'm very confused by this - for an agency who has been very consumer friendly recently, this move would be very anti-consumer. This also does nothing to help security.

This also is a huge threat to innovation. Because Android is unlockable, cyanogenmod created a custom version of Android with some very unique features. Some of these features were well liked and incorporated into other companies Android builds. Without the ability to install custom firmware (and open source code), these Android innovations would never have happened.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Antoine

Last Name: Aflalo

Mailing Address: Yliopistokatu 32 A 101

City: Oulu

Country: Finland

State or Province: Oulu

ZIP/Postal Code: 90570

Email Address:

Organization Name:

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

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Tobias

Last Name: Andersen

Mailing Address: turbolego@gmail.com

City: Oslo

Country: Norway

State or Province: Oslo

ZIP/Postal Code: 0192

Email Address: turbolego@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: This is a threat for open source development and will severely cripple development of new wireless technology.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Ass

Last Name: Lover

Mailing Address: 69 Gayville

City: Ass

Country: United States

State or Province: CA

ZIP/Postal Code: 1269

Email Address: Ass

Organization Name: Butts

Comment: Fuck off

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Noah

Last Name: Yamamoto

Mailing Address: 9113 hillside dr

City: Cedar Hills

Country: United States

State or Province: UT

ZIP/Postal Code: 84063

Email Address: egrodo1@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: An exceeding anti-consumer pro-big business decision. This is a huge threat to mesh nets, anonymity, open source, and maintaining control over the devices you buy. Really glad that my government works for the people.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Tyler

Last Name: groves

Mailing Address: 1 Garden Gate Ct.

City: St. Charles

Country: United States

State or Province: MO

ZIP/Postal Code: 63304

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Please, do not require a locking down of RF devices. There is no reason that this should be a. Lawful requirement for manufacturers. As owner of my devices, my interference in their inner workings is my business. This proposal is a threat to that ownership. The Internet, and it's nodes of access, should not be 100% controlled by the greed of Wall Street and the strange , mistaken decisions of the U.S. Government.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Tom

Last Name: Hazell

Mailing Address: 26 upper Belmont rd

City: Brsitol

Country: United Kingdom

State or Province: Bristol

ZIP/Postal Code: Bs7 9dq

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: This makes no sense and will only harm the industry.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Jakob

Last Name: Sinclair

Mailing Address: Batterivgen 11

City: Lule

Country: Sweden

State or Province: Norrbotten

ZIP/Postal Code: 97631

Email Address: jakob.sinclair99@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: These rules will restrict user freedom because it would limit what the user could install on their devices and there for I hope that these rules will not be implemented. A user should have the right to install software of their choosing on their computing devices. Taking away this right would be very anti-consumer and would only help certain companies.

Wireless networking research depends on the ability of researchers to investigate and modify their devices. These rules would make it a lot harder and stop a lot of the research going on right now.

People need the ability to fix security holes in their devices when the manufacturer chooses to not do so. Often times the manufacturer will stop updating the software on routers for example. But these routers could still carry big security flaws in them and the manufacturer doesn't need to do anything about it. If a user can install custom software on their router, like they can do right now, then they could fix these security flaws.

Users have in the past fixed serious bugs in their wifi drivers, which would be banned under the NPRM. These new rules will remove the ability for users to fix bugs and other security flaws on their own.

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.

This is not what customers and users want, they want to be able to handle their own devices when the manufacturer have stopped caring.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Alex

Last Name: Hermo

Mailing Address: 4993 SE Monroe St

City: Milwaukie

Country: United States

State or Province: OR

ZIP/Postal Code: 97222

Email Address: alexhaboobie@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: I completely disagree with the proposed rule. All it does is hamper the consumer and empower the manufacturer. When someone buys something, they should be able to do whatever they want with it as long as it's not turned into a weapon or something.

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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: Brady

Last Name: Pyl

Mailing Address: 3333 164th st sw apt1234

City: lynnwood

Country: United States

State or Province: WA

ZIP/Postal Code: 98087

Email Address: pyldriver@comcast.net

Organization Name:

Comment: I think anything you pass that disallows a persons ability to work on their own device (laptop, cell phone and the like) simply because they have access to wireless spectrum is a gross misuse of power and will stifle innovation, look at something like DDWRT, this is custom router software that allows more features then a manufacturer has built into the device, It allows the consumer to use their products to the full extent!

Do not pass these regulations as it will be crushing to the internet and the DIYer as things exist. It stops people from developing new products and changing things to make them better, because you know what, sometimes the big mega corporation doesnt know whats best for the consumer and how they need to use everything!

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: James

Last Name: Holleman

Mailing Address: 4121 east 84th avenue

City: anchorage

Country: United States

State or Province: AK

ZIP/Postal Code: 99507

Email Address: ja.holl@gmail.com

Organization Name:

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Zachary

Last Name: Saunders

Mailing Address: 2474 W. Chatsworth Ct.

City: Springfield

Country: United States

State or Province: MO

ZIP/Postal Code: 65810

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: It would be a great disservice to the scientific, hobbyist, commercial electronics industry and electronic security communities to take away the ability of any user to install whatever software they would like on their devices.

I personally use DD-WRT as a hobbyist, and I strictly follow the federal guidelines for both proper bandwidth and amplification of radio waves using my devices.

It has been proven time and time again that open software has the potential to be much more secure and bug free than closed source software. It is very disheartening seeing the federal government (I'm speaking of course of the unethical mass surveillance by the NSA) invading our privacy, hampering our individual rights, and further complicating what for many of us is a hobby. Please don't let the FCC follow suit. I commend the FCC greatly for classifying the Internet as a utility as it was the ethical thing to do. Please, for the betterment of this country and the world make the correct ethical decision in this matter as well.

It is incredibly important that users are able to install whatever software they want on whatever device they choose to install it on (that they own of course). Our lawmakers are stuck in the 18th century, and they need to realize that the technological climate is changing. Laws involving "hacking" and "tampering" shouldn't be as restrictive as they used to be. Security through obscurity is for the most part a myth.

I honestly don't even know why this proposal is being considered. I have no problem with well thought out and ethical legislation, but I'm not even sure what the ethical objection is to installing alternative software on hardware that you have purchased, minus the fact that it can be misused by the initiated or the malicious. Though what technology doesn't fall under the same category?

Many open source software projects have created a lot of good in this world, as well as sparked interest in STEM fields and it would be a shame to see what little support these open source projects have vanish.

Sincerely,

Zachary Saunders

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: David

Last Name: Czarniak

Mailing Address: 2 Ashwood Ct

City: Lancaster

Country: United States

State or Province: NY

ZIP/Postal Code: 14086

Email Address: dfc1356@rit.edu

Organization Name:

Comment: As an IT Security professional, such an implementation as proposed by this provision would be disastrous. Often times the software packaged with these devices is buggy and full of security holes. The ability for users to modify their software with such systems as OpenWRT allows for the community to quickly patch and fix such issues without waiting for when, if ever, the manufacturer decides to fix it with an update.

What is worse, under such an immutable system the manufacturer could simply refuse to update the software forcing users to buy new equipment if they desired any semblance of security for their information. This is decidedly anti-consumer and would allow for what is essentially extortion. "Buy the new thing or have your information stolen" is a very apt way of putting it.

Freedom has ever been the driver of innovation. Restricting the capabilities of owners to modify equipment that they have purchased and own, making it their private property, not only stifles innovation but is directly at odds with the principles of the United States. Please do not allow such a motion to pass.

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RIN:

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Sandy

Last Name: Bruce

Mailing Address: Edinburgh

City: Scotland

Country: United Kingdom

State or Province: Lothian Region

ZIP/Postal Code: EH

Email Address: sandybruce101@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Hello,

I am not a resident in your country, however, I do believe this bill would effect me as it would the residents of your country. This bill is beyond silly, if I purchase something I believe I have the right to modify it to suit my needs, and have on many occasions altered products that feature wifi technology. In my opinion, America and the FCC have no right to modify and control anything outwith their borders. It was the same case with the internet censoring proposals. You are not the world police, and frankly meddling with issues which stem entirely from incompetence is embarrassing.

I do not believe that any more time should be wasted on an issue which is completely irrelevant. I also have every right to use whatever operating system system on my computer that I like. In fact, proposing otherwise is borderline fascism. Remember, the epitome of fascism is the removal of nuance after all. Please do not allow this bill to travel any further, it is a breach of rights and for reasons which just reinforce stereotypes about the American establishment.

Thankyou for your time,

Sandy.

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Edward

Last Name: Cole

Mailing Address: 103 Low Road

City: Sheffield

Country: United Kingdom

State or Province: South Yorkshire

ZIP/Postal Code: S6 5FZ

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: I think this is a terrible idea, Manufacturers should not have the power to lock us out of the products and technology we buy from them.

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Steven

Last Name: Kays

Mailing Address: 1720 Lewis Lane

City: Barnhart

Country: United States

State or Province: MO

ZIP/Postal Code: 63012

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Dear FCC,

From my point of view you should be doing the exact opposite of requiring manufacturers to lock down computing devices to prevent modification if they have a "modular wireless radio" (a Wi-Fi network adapter for example). 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,

Steven

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Benjamin

Last Name: Amkhanitsky

Mailing Address: benn\_36000@yahoo.com

City: staten island

Country: United States

State or Province: NY

ZIP/Postal Code: 10309

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: This is a horrible, horrible idea that will take away our rightful ownership of the devices we paid our own money for

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Alexander

Last Name: Kirko

Mailing Address: Russian Federation, Moscow, 2nd Melitopolskaya str., house 11, apartment 72

City: Moscow

Country: Russia

State or Province: Outside US and Canada

ZIP/Postal Code: 117623

Email Address: amatamune@ya.ru

Organization Name:

Comment: Good day

This comment concerns paragraph 32.e) of the proposed rules changes.

Over the last decade cyber-security has become a much more important issue than before during the last few years, as evidenced by the answers given by big businesses regarding the most significant risks.

The ability to install custom firmware creates the possibility of introducing additional exploits into wireless devices, which can indeed be a problem. Preventing that also serves the purpose of making it easier for engineers and developers to anticipate the behaviour of applications and devices.

However, the proposed rule changes will certainly have adverse effects that, in my humble opinion, outweigh the benefits:

- 1) Custom firmware may be used to make a great device for the end-user out of something with great hardware and subpar software. This includes installing open-source firmware that is more secure than the firmware offered by unattentive companies producing the devices. It must be noted that most advanced security techniques require some degree of control over the operating system of the devices, like having super-user rights on an Android device. The proposed change will remove that possibility.
- 2) The proposed change violates the right of any consumer to control the behaviour of the device that they have bought. It is their property and if a consumer would like to program a Wi-fi to perform computations, for example, they should be able to do so at their own risk.
- 3) The proposed change will impact not only the US but the entire world as many manufacturers will not take the effort to develop separate manufacturing processes for the US and the other countries.

Other considerations include ever-increasing competition from Asian electronics manufacturers and the damage that will be done to private groups and companies developing alternative firmware.

Forbidding the use of custom software for end-user infringes on their right to modify the behaviour of their property (voiding warranty, of course) and thus the proposed change must have clear benefits and insubstantial drawbacks. Instead, it is the drawbacks that are clear and significant, both to the US and the outer world.

Best regards, Alex

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Graham

Last Name: Norris

Mailing Address: 2300 Oakmont Way

City: Darien

Country: United States

State or Province: IL

ZIP/Postal Code: 60561

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Dear Commissioners,

I strongly urge you to not lock down consumer devices for a variety of reasons. As a scientist and computer hobbyist, I rely on the ability to install linux and other alternative operating systems on my personal computer in order to do my job.

Similarly, in a world where hacks of electronic devices are more and more common, sometimes user-driven security measures such as ddWRT/OpenWRT for wireless routers or custom ROMs for Android phones such as Cyanogenmod are necessary.

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Eric

Last Name: Iorson

Mailing Address: 40 McGuire Road

City: trumbull

Country: United States

State or Province: CT

ZIP/Postal Code: 06611

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Preventing consumers from modifying their devices is virtually criminal. Individual freedom to do what you want with what you own is both a way to foster innovation and identify security holes. This rule would destroy innovation and only make rich companies richer.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Marc

Last Name: Smids

Mailing Address: Salamancapad 213

City: Utrecht

Country: Netherlands

State or Province: Gelderland

ZIP/Postal Code: 3584DX

Email Address: asteryz@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: This is an absolutely awfull idea.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Mark

Last Name: Ranum

Mailing Address: 4020 E. 52nd. St., #102

City: Minneapolis

Country: United States

State or Province: MN

ZIP/Postal Code: 55417

Email Address: mark.ranum@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Please do not take away my freedom to continue to innovate. This proposal would remove a great deal of the tools I use to continue to innovate in my field of computer sciences. Please do not implement rules that take away my ability to install software of my choosing on my computing devices.

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Michael

Last Name: Jacobs

Mailing Address: 889B Suncook Valley Hwy

City: Epsom

Country: United States

State or Province: NH

ZIP/Postal Code: 03234

Email Address: netrlix@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: DD-WRT is not the problem, and blocking it from being installed is overwhelmingly anti-consumer. Tech hobbyists install custom router software because it adds enhanced functionality to a piece of hardware we own. It adds additional configuration options: routing functions to make more complex networks work better, QoS controls to prioritize internet traffic, better support for storage devices to be shared across the wireless network, and many other features. It breathes new life into devices that would otherwise be obsolete by now.

It's completely understandable that you're worried about DD-WRT's ability to change radio specifications in software. However, the problem isn't that DD-WRT allows this; the problem is that the radio specifications are directly accessible through software in the first place. Rather than not allowing custom firmware to be installed, simply put a barrier between the software that controls the router and the software that controls the radio specifications (i.e. transmission power). If these controls are not accessible by the main operating system, then the operating system itself becomes irrelevant and consumers can be free to install whichever operating system they want.

Please don't allow manufacturers to tell us which software we can and cannot install on our devices. Put the onus on them to separate radio controls from operating software. Cell phone manufacturers have already solved this dilemma. People install custom firmware on cell phones all the time without being able to change radio specifications because they're separated from the operating system, so WiFi router manufacturers should be able to accomplish the same.

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Joan

Last Name: Ruiz-Muina

Mailing Address: 6506 86th ST

City: Lubbock

Country: United States

State or Province: TX

ZIP/Postal Code: 79424

Email Address: johnruizyo@hotmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Please do not propose this, the freedom to run any operating system and other software on the devices you own is one of the greatest freedoms we have in the digital age. It is also important for people to be able self-fix security issues when companies choose not to for whatever reason. Taking away this freedom will only benefit companies and not common citizens and people.

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Erin

Last Name: Goodman

Mailing Address: PO Box 369

City: Lynden

Country: United States

State or Province: WA

ZIP/Postal Code: 98247

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: This potential set of rules flies in the absolute face of personal liberty, and is a solution to a problem that clearly doesn't exist. This misuse of FCC power is insane, especially when the FCC is completely unable to even force companies like Verizon, Comcast, Time Warner, and AT&T to follow the Net Neutrality rules already laid out by the commission. This restricts consumer access to purchased devices, and takes us even farther down the road that '1984' so eerily predicted.

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Submitter Info:

First Name: gary

Last Name: mcmann

Mailing Address: 190 South Smith Street

City: Cochranon

Country: United States

State or Province: PA

ZIP/Postal Code: 16314

Email Address: g99.j19@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: If i buy an item its my right to modify and use that item in anyway.

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Trevor

Last Name: Bell

Mailing Address: 1905 Jackson Street

City: Merrill

Country: United States

State or Province: WI

ZIP/Postal Code: 54452

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Fuck this, this is absolutely ridiculous and should not pass.

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

Submitter Info:

First Name: Random

Last Name: Random

Mailing Address: 1221 Foo Street

City: Footown

Country: United States

State or Province: IA

ZIP/Postal Code: 50126

Email Address:

Organization Name:

Comment: Dear FCC,

This is a very anti-consumer move to take. It limits the progress of alternative operating systems such as GNU/Linux, openBSD, et cetera. It effectively forces consumers to deal with whatever choices the manufacturer makes, which is probably not the best for them. It also forces consumers to use Microsoft Windows or Apple OS X, whose price can be raised since there is no alternative. Please don't ensure a Microsoft/Apple duopoly by passing this bill.

Land of the free? I'm not so sure.

Sincerely,

A Linux user

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Submitter Info:

First Name: Merlijn

Last Name: Sebrechts

Mailing Address: Sint-Salvatorstraat

City: Gent

Country: Belgium

State or Province: Oost-Vlaanderen

ZIP/Postal Code: 9000

Email Address: merlijn.sebrechts@gmail.com

Organization Name:

Comment: Hello

My name is Merlijn Sebrechts. I am a Phd student from Belgium working on Big Data research. I am writing this because the FCC regulations will have international consequences that will restrict my ability to do research, among other things.

I would like to urge you not to implement rules that take away the ability of users to install the software of their choosing on their computing devices. I am currently running Ubuntu, on my laptop, because this helps me a lot to do my research, and gives me the security I need. I have access to some of the largest compute clusters in the world and I work daily with confidential information, so security is very important to me.

Implementing these rules will take away my ability to install software of my choosing on my computer, since it my computer contains a wireless device. It will restrict my ability to fix security holes that the manufacturer of my device does not want to fix fast enough. Wireless networking research depends on the ability of researchers to investigate and modify their devices. In the past, serious bugs in wifi drivers have been fixed by users. This would be banned under the NPRM. For my research, I run the Linux kernel on my laptop. The vendor of the WIFI device has chosen not to develop drivers for the Linux kernel. Because of that I rely on WIFI drivers made by users. This would not be possible under the NPRM, so my research would be seriously hampered. Currently, my laptop is built by an USA company. Under the NPRM, I would be forced to buy a laptop from a non-USA company. 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.

Kind Regards

Merlijn Sebrechts