

60001330450.txt

Dear FCC,

My name is Douglas DuFoe-Guiles and I live in Milwaukee, WI.

The principles of user choice and control are vitally important for a vibrant wireless ecosystem. But as written, the NPRM threatens to undermine these ideals by limiting what users can do with their devices. That's a concern, because I utilize the flexibility of these devices to learn, design, and test new software and its capabilities

The draft rules could enable device manufacturers to forbid third-party software, which would not only choke-off a thriving sub culture of hobbyist and entrepreneurs, but would also destroy the supporting businesses.

I have been a contributing member to our economy for over 25 years. My chosen profession in IT can be traced directly back to a Linksys WRT54G and the PCs that I had attached to it. Growing up in a poor family, if I wanted something, I had to make it. I made my first (several) PCs out of junked PCs others had thrown away. When I had two PCs, I needed to create a network with a router and I had to salvage that as well. I still have that router (and the second PC) to this day, and thanks to the continued support of the after market community, it still works. If it had not been for the Open Source third-party firmware that I was able to use, and the skills that has taught me, I can't say that I would have continued down the IT career path and have the life I lead today.

There are so many good reasons NOT to limit firmware development, and so few reasons to do so. Please do not pass this new FCC rule.

Sincerely,

Douglas DuFoe-Guiles