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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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**INTERNET
Commerce & Communications
DIVISION**

**Mark Uncapher
Vice President & Counsel**

February 21, 2001

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-204B
Washington, DC 20554

Re: In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on
Universal Service Children's Internet Protection Act
(the CHIP Act), FCC 01-31, (CC Docket No. 96-45) /

Dear Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b), this letter is to inform you that an *ex parte* presentation was made yesterday regarding issues in the above-referenced proceeding.

The following members of the Common Carrier Bureau's Accounting Policy Division staff. Present were Jonathan Secrest & Narda Jones.

They met with Uncapher, Vice President of Information Services and Electronic Commerce Division of ITAA, David Burt of N2H2, Susan Getgood and Alison May Rosen of Surf Control. The issues addressed in this meeting are outlined fully in the attached written *ex parte* presentation, which was provided during the meetings.

In accordance with Section 1.1206, an original and two copies of this letter and attachment are being submitted to the Secretary's office on this date. Please address any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Sincerely

Mark Uncapher

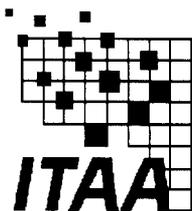
attachment
cc: Jonathan Secrest
Narda Jones

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List A B C D E

Information Technology Association of America

INTERNET *Commerce & Communications* DIVISION

1401 Wilson Blvd. # 1100 Arlington, VA 22209; 703-284-5344-direct, 703-525-2279 fax;
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ITAA Announces New Committee on Internet Management and Safety

October 23, 2000

For More Information Contact:
Tinabeth Burton (703) 284-5305 tburton@itaa.org

Arlington, VA – The Information Technology Association of America (ITAA) today announced that some of the leading companies in the Internet safety and filtering industries had formed a new Committee on Internet Management and Safety.

The Committee will work to educate the marketplace about the value and effectiveness of Internet safety products and develop an industry code of conduct to enable consumers to identify effective and reputable companies within the industry.

“As the oldest and largest IT trade association, ITAA recognizes the growing, changing needs of our industry. The new Committee on Internet Management and Safety’s goals coordinate with leading programs within ITAA. We welcome other Internet safety companies to join this new initiative,” said ITAA President Harris N. Miller.

“We believe that competition, consumer choice and technological innovation are the most effective ways to provide Internet users with a safe and productive online experience,” said Susan Getgood, vice president of education markets for SurfControl, a member of the new ITAA Committee.

Gordon Ross, president and CEO of Net Nanny Software International, Inc. added: “We support ITAA’s broad agenda of generally pro-competitive, anti-regulatory Internet policy. For this reason, we identified it as the most appropriate industry organization for our companies to come together to communicate our collective interests on promoting an open Internet and a wide range of innovative solutions that empower users.”

ITAA member companies joining the Internet Safety Committee include Net Nanny, iTech, and SurfControl.

The Information Technology Association of America (ITAA) provides global public policy, business networking, and national leadership to promote the continued rapid growth of the IT industry. ITAA consists of 400 direct and 26,000 affiliate corporate members throughout the U.S., and a global network of 41 countries’ IT associations. The Association plays the leading role in issues of IT industry concern including information security, taxes and finance policy, digital intellectual property protection, telecommunications competition, workforce and education, immigration, online privacy and consumer protection, government IT procurement, human resources and e-commerce policy. ITAA members range from the smallest IT start-ups to industry leaders in the Internet, software, IT services, ASP, digital content, systems integration, telecommunications, and enterprise solution fields. For more information visit www.itaa.org.

For more information: Mark Uncapher, Vice President & Counsel, **Information Technology Association of America**; INTERNET *Commerce & Communications* DIVISION; 1401 Wilson Blvd. #1100 Arlington, VA 22209; 703-284-5344-direct, 703-525-2279 fax; muncapher@itaa.org; <http://www.itaa.org/isec.htm>



For Immediate Release
February 15, 2001

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IT Industry Says Report Filters Reality

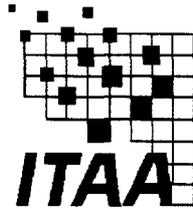
Arlington, VA - The Information Technology Association of America (ITAA) today said that an article in *Consumer Reports* magazine analyzing filtering software falls short in fairly characterizing the utility of these consumer tools, and raised questions about the methodology of the analysis.

“Millions of homes and schools use filtering technologies to help protect children from objectionable material on the Internet. Like automobile seat belts, filtering software is not 100% effective. But no responsible adult allows family members to drive without first buckling up. We think kids should be as safe as possible, whether they are rolling down the road or cruising through cyberspace, said ITAA President Harris Miller. “Filtering software is an incredible tool for parenting in the digital age, but it should not be confused as a replacement for active parenting. Parents still need to be just as involved in their children’s online experience as they should be with their children’s television or movie viewing.”

ITAA pointed out that the sample size used in the *Consumer Reports* article - 86 hand picked sites - was minute compared with the number of sites with problematic content that can be found online, and may have led to inaccurate results in the study. The study did not capture the diversity of approaches and methodologies used by these products.

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For more information: Mark Uncapher, Vice President & Counsel, **Information Technology Association of America; Internet Commerce & Communications Division**; 1401 Wilson Blvd. #1100 Arlington, VA 22209; 703-284-5344-direct, 703-525-2279 fax; muncapher@itaa.org; <http://www.itaa.org/isec.htm>



- Introduction to ITAA's Committee on Internet Management & Safety. Committee includes leading filtering companies – Net Nanny, N2H2, iTech, SurfControl and Surf Monkey.
- FCC appropriately avoided a prescriptive approach to the implementation of Children's Internet Protection Act in its initial NPRM.
- The alternative approach of prescribing filtering software would draw the Commission into content management for schools and libraries.
- Many schools and libraries already use Internet management and safety products without a Federal mandate – or Federal guidance.
- Internet safety products have a diversity of styles and approaches.
- All Internet management and safety products need to be used in conjunction with adult supervision. No single approach can be 100% effective against both false negatives or false positives.
- Parents, schools and libraries are best equipped to decide which products will work best in their own circumstances.