

I am writing to oppose the "Broadcast Flag Mandate" included in the Broadcast Protection Discussion Subgroup final report. I oppose this measure on two grounds:

First, technology is constantly changing. By setting this rule now, the FCC could be seen to be acting as an agent for current technology/content providers. The FCC should remain as neutral as possible in the face of an ever changing business climate. By establishing this mandate, the FCC will gain the appearance of opposing innovative new technologies that may appeal to consumers more than those available now.

Second, the process that led to this document have not been as open to the general public as should be. This mandate would have international influence, as many countries are considering the US Digital TV standard. To have a rule or mandate that would have this wide of a reach should have the appearance of open and lively debate including those affected (i.e. computer owners, local media organizations, etc.)

I propose that the current document be considered a first step towards this debate. The interest in this matter is too wide spread not to include as many comments as possible.