

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED Alexander Beels
30 West End Avenue, #10A
New York, NY

02-230

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2004

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Commissioner Michael J Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D C 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J Copps

As an academic working in the field of intellectual property, I am extremely concerned over the FCC's adoption of a "broadcast flag" I would like to join all of the other Americans whose freedom of speech is threatened by this rule in strongly opposing it

Ever since the passing of the DMCA, there has been a distressing trend in American communications regulations which are taking ownership of information away from the average citizen and granting exclusive rights to large corporations to decide how information may be exchanged and consumed The "broadcast flag" is a continuation of this trend. The activities which the broadcast flag *claims* to prohibit are already illegal Even with the "broadcast flag", movies broadcast on HDTV will be readily available on illegal DVDs the next day The true effect of the "broadcast flag" will be to restrict the right of private citizens to own and write software, and to set a precedent for placing the broadcast industry's desire to control consumer's use of media before the first amendment rights of private citizens.

Adopting the broadcast flag will make the FCC stand for "Federal Computer Control" which is outside its proper role It is not the FCC's place to effectively choose the software licenses or computer operating systems that consumers must use in order to watch digital television broadcast on their computers

Additionally, adoption of the broadcast flag will harm innovation. Many users of open-source software are computer programmers and "tinkerers" who work to improve the software Their contributions and constant innovation is what makes open-source software able to compete in the marketplace

The broadcast flag rule advocated by the MPAA will ban open-source implementations of VSB and QAM modulators and demodulators, preventing open-source programmers from innovating in field of digital communications techniques used by television

Most Americans assumed that when television became digital, viewers would be able to do more with television programming, not less. Without innovative new products and flexibility in the ways consumers are able to watch TV, consumers will be less inclined to invest in the equipment to view digital television Therefore, the broadcast flag is likely to slow adoption of digital television in addition to making it illegal to watch digital television on a computer using open-source software. It is for these reasons I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag

Sincerely,

Alexander Beels

Ph D Candidate, Department of History, Columbia University

Sincerely,

Alexander Beets

Barbara M Reis
165 The Channel Way
Brewster, Ma 02631

Commissioner Michael J Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D C 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J Copps

As a broadcast television viewer and consumer of electronics and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am outraged that the FCC would consider a regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television

The broadcast flag is neither in my interest nor the public's interest. It will prevent me from watching digital broadcast television in the ways I currently enjoy analog broadcast television—for example, it will restrict my ability to move the video I have recorded for personal viewing from room-to-room and place-to-place

The broadcast flag will also lock out my computer as a way to watch my favorite shows using my choice of software on a plane or train, or to send a television clip of a high school football game to family and friends

Furthermore, if computers cannot freely receive digital television, how can I expect creative developers to discover new devices that enable me to use content in exciting ways I haven't even thought of? I value innovative devices like TiVo, Replay TV and the Windows Media Center PC, which exist today because they were built to open standards using inexpensive, off-the-shelf computer parts

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital television equipment? A prettier picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and viewer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag

We Americans have enough government controls on our freedoms fought for us by our forefathers, and every soldier who fought a war to insure those freedoms. As a school teacher of junior high school students, the ability to record certain educational, historical and even entertainment programs, enables me to enrich and instruct the curriculum that is taught in public and private schools to an extent that is not as exciting and real using just text books. Please do not enforce this Broadcast Flag. Also, these days many students are being home schooled, without the benefit of television programs recorded, these students will be denied benefits that otherwise are unavailable for them. Thank You, Barbara

Sincerely,

Barbara M Reis

Michael Macaluso
103 Deer Lake Drive
North Babylon, NY 11703

RECEIVED
FCC
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps

Thousands of American consumers have already expressed their opposition to the FCC's adoption of a "broadcast flag" I am writing to join them. As a user of open-source software, adoption of the broadcast flag will mean I am unable to receive digital television broadcasts on my computer.

The really painful part is the one where the party in office says, "There is too much government and we are here to fix it." You guys promised to protect my American way of life. You also should have no problem supporting creative American workers.

Please take this opportunity to keep that promise at least one time. Software is the last bastion of American ingenuity. It is the last product we make that has not been "outriced" by our Asian competitors. It is the nature of our free thinking "tinketers", icons of the unfettered American spirit that I ask you to spare. Do not support the shackles of restrictive legislation. Just this once... support independent American programmers, not Sony Corp.

Sincerely,

Michael Macaluso

David Allyn
1434 W. 23rd St
Apartment#1
Mpls, MN 55408

David Allyn
1434 W. 23rd St
Apartment#1
Mpls, MN 55408

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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It is not the FCC's place to effectively choose the software licenses or computer operating systems that consumers must use in order to watch digital television broadcast on their computers. It is apparent to me as both a user and developer that in the coming decades broadcast media and internet technology will merge.

Upon this merge, the public will view television and internet communication as one. Since there will be direct ramifications to my (and others) ability to develop software without recourse, I must implore you to scrutinize the lobby efforts of media companies, which have their profit lines in interest — not the public's.

Since one of the roles of government is to regulate business on behalf of the public (that which this United States was organized by and for) you must view this issue from the people's perspective not the communications business community's.

Many users of open-source software are computer programmers and "tinkers" who work to improve the software. Their contributions and constant innovation is what makes open-source software able to compete in the marketplace.

The broadcast flag rule advocated by the MPAA will ban open-source implementations of VSB and QAM modulators and demodulators, preventing open-source programmers from innovating in field of digital communications techniques used by television.

Most Americans assumed that when television became digital, viewers would be able to do more with television programming, not less. Without innovative new products and flexibility in the ways consumers are able to watch TV, consumers will be less inclined to invest in the equipment to view digital television. Therefore, the broadcast flag is likely to slow adoption of digital television in addition to making it illegal to watch digital television on a computer using open-source software. It is for these reasons I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag.

I thank you in advance for your careful thought and scrutinization of the communications business community's lobby of this new and emerging issue.

Sincerely,

David Allyn

Sincerely,

David Allyn

Frank Shulse
103 Bicknell St
Columbia, MO 65203

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps:

I am 100% opposed to the FCC's adoption of a "broadcast flag." I want no restrictions on open-source media software. I oppose this idea and I am writing to join them. As a user of open-source software, adoption of the broadcast flag will mean I am unable to receive digital television broadcasts on my computer.

Adopting the broadcast flag will make the FCC stand for "Federal Computer Control" which is outside its proper role. It is not the FCC's place to effectively choose the software licenses or computer operating systems that consumers must use in order to watch digital television broadcast on their computers.

Additionally, adoption of the broadcast flag will harm innovation. Many users of open-source software are computer programmers and "tinkers" who work to improve the software. Their contributions and constant innovation is what makes open-source software able to compete in the marketplace.

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Sincerely,

Frank Shulse

V. M. Fischer
2428 Canyon Creek Drive
Stockton, CA 95207

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

REC-111
JF
7/11/07

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps

Now that ReplayTV has entered our household, we watch what we want to see when we want to see it. The new Replay units even allow sending the recording of a particular show to another Replay user. We expect digital television to impact our use of television even further giving us more and more options over time. FCC's adoption of a "broadcast flag" seems to turn the clock back when it comes to the advancement of technology in the television field.

Digital television is the coming wave and putting the brakes on the design and implementation of new software related to it seems ill advised.

It is hard for me to believe that the FCC is not aware of those issues, and it is my sincere hope that industry lobbying efforts will not encourage the FCC to turn a blind eye to the needs and desires of the consumer. I would hate to see further development squelched.

I understand the need to protect copyrights. I for one do not illegally copy computer software. Several years ago I produced a software product that was sometimes pirated, and I know the frustration first hand. However, I don't believe that the adoption of the broadcast flag will discourage illegal activity. I think it will merely curtail development and reasonable use.

Receiving digital TV on my computer may not be something that I wish to do next month or even next year, but I do believe that the options should be open and I want to express my opposition to the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

V. M. Fischer

Brent Emery Preczynski
805 Airport Way
Suite #1
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

RECEIVED
FEB 2 2003
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps

Open Source Standards allow machines to work together and those for pay broadcast could more dependably be paid when, conflicting standards are not implemented. If I am required to pay for internet television then I will refuse all internet television, this means the conflict in Iraq will not be important enough to watch. My voting will fail to place any attention on soundbite politicians, instead I will listen to talk radio with its news of the fall of The United States

Sincerely,

Brent Emery Preczynski

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

1549 Birchwood
Chicago IL 60626

NeilRest@rcn.com

27 October, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St NW
Washington DC 20554

02-230

Commissioner Copps,

I strongly oppose "broadcast flag" technology for digital television.

To give an effective monopoly to one group of companies' products opposes free market innovation on the one hand, and is effectively a give-away of our publicly-owned airwaves on the other. In addition, this kind of restriction would slow and damage the adoption of DTV, since consumers would be much less welcoming of inferior capabilities at higher prices.

I urge you not to mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television.

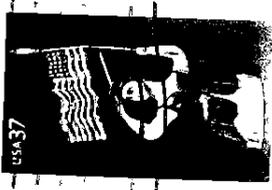
Sincerely yours,

Neil Rest

cc: Hon. Richard Durbin
Rep. Janice D. Schakowsky
Hon. Peter Fitzgerald

No. of Copies Rec'd /
List ABCDE

Neil Rest
1549 Birchwood
Chicago, IL 60626-1703



RECEIVED & INSPECTED
NOV - 3 2003
FCC - Mr. FROOM

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. NW
Washington DC 20554

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Jessica Crouch
1504 Bradley Ave
Rockville, MD 20851

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

JAN 23 1000
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps

Placing restrictions on the development of free and open source software is entirely inappropriate. It should be within my rights, and within the rights of every other programmer, to write and share software that we find useful, so long as the software does not have illegal intent.

The fact that it might be possible to use software intended for legal purposes to violate copyright laws should not be used as a reason for banning such software. We allow people in this country to carry guns, drive automobiles, drink alcohol, and participate in a number of other activities that are not illegal but certainly enable illegal activity if a person has malicious intent. The mere possibility of a tool being used for an illegal purpose is insufficient reason for banning the tool. The solution to the copyright infringement problem must lie elsewhere.

Jessica Crouch

Sincerely,

Jessica Crouch

Michael Biczynski
2139 Alameda Ave
Alameda, CA 94501

RECEIVED

NOV 23 2004

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20541

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps:

As a broadcast television viewer and electronics consumer, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag."

The broadcast flag is neither in my interest nor the public's interest. It will prevent me from watching digital broadcast television in the ways I currently enjoy analog broadcast television—for example, it will restrict my ability to move the video I have recorded for personal viewing from room-to-room and place-to-place. The broadcast flag will also lock out my computer as a way to watch my favorite shows using my choice of software on a plane or train.

In approving a broadcast flag, the FCC would be assisting private parties in curtailing personal freedom in use of a public resource. That's a mercenaries job, not the FCC's. As a citizen and viewer of broadcast television, I urge you to retract this odious provision.

Combined with the billion dollar spectrum giveaway to the major networks for the digital transition, adoption of this rule would effectively put the FCC in dereliction of duty.

Please work to see that communication markets produce a greater diversity of quality content. Concentration of the industry isn't doing that. A sharper picture of the same crap is not much progress. It's time to look beyond the narrow interests of a few copyright holders.

Sincerely,

Michael Biczynski

Sincerely,

Michael Biczynski

carlton goode
11218 Kline St SW
Lakewood, WA 98499

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps

I am a computer hobbyist with 6 children whom are hobbyist as well. I am employed as a Security Guard and earn \$9.25 an hour. I have had to learn open-source software and Operating Systems, simply because I cannot afford the others.

My children would have no access to modern computing at all if it weren't for open-source availability. They have learned how to download games and install emulators and even write small scripts. This would have never happened if we were limited to what we could afford.

This desire to implement a "Broadcast flag" will only stifle the ability for the low income to learn modern programming. I bet there aren't more than a few hundred thousand people who get digital tv on their computers, even if it is a few million. There are hundreds of millions who will never do it. So the argument that it is a financial issue is moot.

I believe the real reason is the rich are afraid that the low income will learn computing as good as them and someday be competitors in business. They want to keep families like mine down and stuck in menial jobs, like security, so we can never dream of owning our own home or living out of debt.

This is a blatant attempt by the MPAA to keep monopolistic control over an ever widening field. What the heck is the FCC doing licensing software anyway? Why isn't my country's FCC defending my right to explore and innovate?

Last but not least, it is true that people watch tv and movies and such. My kids had Star Wars 2 days before it came out, but it ignited a passion in them for computing that only experience could. They are now learning how to make their own digital movies by info they get off the net. The MPAA certainly isn't helping foster their education or desire for knowledge.

It is for these reasons I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

a registered voter,

Carlton Lee Goode Jr

11218 Kline St SW

Lakewood, WA 98499

Sincerely

Carlton Goodle

Ken Belcher
2626 N Lakeview #3703
Chicago, IL 60614-1830

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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As a broadcast television viewer and consumer of electronics and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am outraged that the FCC would consider a regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

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The broadcast flag will also lock out my computer as a way to watch my favorite shows using my choice of software on a plane or train, or to send a television clip of a high school football game to family and friends.

Furthermore, if computers cannot freely receive digital television, how can I expect creative developers to discover new devices that enable me to use content in exciting ways I haven't even thought of? I value innovative devices like TiVo, ReplayTV and the Windows Media Center PC, which exist today because they were built to open standards using inexpensive, off-the-shelf computer parts.

The most anti-consumer aspect of your action is its lack of provision for bypassing any such flag when it interferes with consumer fair-use of copyrighted materials, or when it is applied to materials which have no copyright protection, either because that protection has expired or was never in force.

The US Copyright system, like the Patent system, was set up as a quid pro quo: the Government agreed to legally protect the author/inventor rights for a limited period of time, in exchange for the material's placement in the public domain at the expiration of that time. For whatever reason, be it a misunderstanding of the original arrangement, a misplaced sympathy for a few author/inventors who seemed to get a raw deal, or, as cynics would have it, the sheer power of campaign contributions, Congress has, in recent decades, dramatically diminished the People's return in exchange for that protection. The DMCA has further encroached on those rights, and now the FCC has MANDATED a technology that once again makes it possible for rights that exist in law to be taken away from those citizens who agreed to offer limited protection in exchange for unlimited future use.

I have some sympathy for authors, having watched expensive software that my company developed being widely copied, however, our attempts to protect it invariably caused more harm to our honest users than the extra revenue generated (in part because we overestimated what share of copiers could be converted to users), and we removed the protection. Last year, Intuit decided to protect its TurboTax product, in a disaster for it and all of us who (formerly) used its product – I now use a non-protected competitor. And now one of the popular Antivirus products, Norton AntiVirus, has been released with protection that is failing, exposing large numbers of legitimate purchaser to PC viruses, with no meaningful recourse! If your action is implemented, we can expect to see similar deprivation of ownership rights of flagged digital material.

I do not understand the FCC's motives. The public airwaves are just that – we, the people, own them and broadcasters have temporary use of them, ultimately at our pleasure. In your media ownership rules you argue contradictory positions, first that the survival of the broadcasters is essential and dependent on the new rules, WHTLF arguing this poses no threat to public access to information because of the pervasiveness of alternate access mediums.

With the broadcast flag you seem to be fighting a battle on behalf of the broadcasters once again – unnecessarily once again, because they can either comply, or give up the spectrum to some OTHER content provider who will comply! And furthermore you seem to be following the misguided concerns of the music business, whose fears kept them from offering a product that the public wanted, which caused the void to be filled by pirates. However now that the music services have finally offered legitimate download licenses those services are rapidly proliferating. There will still be some theft, but there is and will be content theft however it is protected. The question is how much penalty will be imposed on the honest to sooth the over-the-top fears of the providers, who – as the RIAA has discovered, does have other enforcement tools.

As a citizen and viewer of broadcast television, and one of the ultimate owners of the portion of the broadcast spectrum that it uses, I urge you to mandate the digital television transition without the adoption of the broadcast flag, in exchange for continued access to that spectrum.

Sincerely,

Ken Belcher

Ken Belcher
2626 N Lakeview #3703
Chicago, IL 60614-1830

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Ken Belcher

Dale E. Higgs
28801 210th Ave SE
Kent, WA 98042-6803

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
45 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps:

One year ago, I unplugged my television set because I was fed up with the low-brow bent of local broadcasts, the incessant 'sky-is-falling' approach of the local news programs, and the 25% to 30% commercial content.

In the last year, I have refused to watch the idiot box, relying instead on newspapers for my news.

Last week I purchased components for and built a new computer. This machine has the ability to receive television broadcasts. My intent has been to use open source software to view digital broadcasts, but I now find that the FCC is considering adoption of a "broadcast flag" which, if I understand the effect of this rule, will make it illegal for me to use my computer in this way.

I strongly disagree with any restrictions to my use of broadcasts. The airwaves belong to the public, not to corporate interests. Once content has been broadcast, that broadcast must be part of the public domain and available for fair use. I consider the ability to use whatever means I choose to view the content as fair use.

Please refuse to restrict the rights of the general public. Thank-you.

Sincerely,

Dale E. Higgs

Vincent McKenna
5118 SW Slavin Rd
#113
Portland, Or 97239

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps

NO On Broadcast Flags unless if you want to hurt an already failing industries, which mean I pay more for less. You can try and stop the free software but you wont be able and all this is a waste of what little resource we have left. I use freeware no everything I can and the only reason that is is becuase nothing works the way I want it too, so I have to modify things and if I cant make thing work for me the way I want them to work, I wont buy anything or watch anything. I guess I'll to start reading more books

Thousands of American consumers have already expressed their opposition to the FCC's adoption of a "broadcast flag". I am writing to join them. As a user of open-source software, adoption of the broadcast flag will mean I am unable to receive digital television broadcasts on my computer.

Adopting the broadcast flag will make the FCC stand for "Federal Computer Control" which is outside its proper role. It is not the FCC's place to effectively choose the software licenses or computer operating systems that consumers must use in order to watch digital television broadcast on their computers.

Additionally, adoption of the broadcast flag will harm innovation. Many users of open-source software are computer programmers and "tinkerers" who work to improve the software. Their contributions and constant innovation is what makes open-source software able to compete in the marketplace.

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Most Americans assumed that when television became digital, viewers would be able to do more with television programming, not less. Without innovative new products and flexibility in the ways consumers are able to watch TV, consumers will be less inclined to invest in the equipment to view digital television. Therefore, the broadcast flag is likely to slow adoption of digital television in addition to making it illegal to watch digital television on a computer using open-source software. It is for these reasons I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Vincent McKenna

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Mike Mammarella
287 Riverglade Drive #14
Amherst, MA 01002

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JAN 23 2004

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps:

I am writing to voice my opposition to the FCC's adoption of a "broadcast flag."

As a user of open-source software, adoption of the broadcast flag will mean I am unable to receive digital television broadcasts on my computer, just as the adoption of the DMCA and CSS-encrypted DVDs has limited my ability to watch legally-purchased DVDs. For this reason alone, I have not purchased any DVDs. The media companies' paranoid behavior has actually lost them my business.

Far be it from me to mandate the broadcast flag is outside the role of the FCC. It is not the FCC's place to effectively enslave the software licenses of computer operating systems that consumers must use in order to watch digital television broadcast on their computers. This choice lies solely in the hands of the consumers.

Additionally, adoption of the broadcast flag will ham innovation. Many users of open-source software are computer programmers and "tinkerers" who work to improve the software. Their contributions and constant innovation is what makes open-source software able to compete in the marketplace.

I am in fact such a programmer, and I know from experience that it is much more fun and rewarding to write software that interoperates with some standard when that standard is open and freely available, and when others will be able to use my software without being concerned about whether it is legal.

Most Americans assumed that when television became digital, viewers would be able to do more with television programming, not less. Without innovative new products and flexibility in the ways consumers are able to watch TV, consumers will be less inclined to invest in the equipment to view digital television. Therefore, the broadcast flag is likely to slow adoption of digital television in addition to making it illegal to watch digital television on a computer using open-source software. It is for these reasons I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Mike Mammarella

Richard J. Nelson
20216 Lakemore Dr
Canyon Country, CA 91351

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps

As an American consumer and programmer I wish to express my opposition to the FCC's adoption of a "broadcast flag". I am writing to join the thousands of others who feel the same way. As a user of open-source software, adoption of the broadcast flag will mean I am unable to receive digital television broadcasts on my computer.

The FCC should not stand for "Federal Computer Control" which is outside its proper role. It is not the FCC's place to effectively choose the software licenses or computer operating systems that consumers must use in order to watch digital television broadcast on their computers. Besides this rule could be thrown out by the courts because it infringes on our constitutional rights.

Additionally, adoption of the broadcast flag will harm innovation and this one of the few areas that we can effectively compete in the world community. Many users of open-source software are computer programmers and "tinkers" who work to improve the software. Big corporations have inherent limitations and our country should not be so limited. Their contributions and constant innovation is what makes open-source software able to compete in the marketplace.

The broadcast flag rule advocated by the MPAA will ban open-source implementations of VSB and QAM modulators and demodulators, preventing open-source programmers from innovating in field of digital communications techniques used by television. Additionally, if the rule is adopted these innovative contributors will be forced underground keeping their technology to them selves. This further inhibits the advancements that our open society has demonstrated to outperform most others.

Most Americans assumed that when television became digital, viewers would be able to do more with television programming, not less. Without innovative new products and flexibility in the ways consumers are able to watch TV, consumers will be less inclined to invest in the equipment to view digital television. Let's keep in mind that the air waves are a public resource and not just the domain of commercial interests. Therefore, the broadcast flag is likely to slow adoption of digital television in addition to making it illegal to watch digital television on a computer using open-source software. It is for these reasons I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag. -rjn

Sincerely,

Richard J. Nelson

Joan Nierut
9533 Lemoran Ave
Downey CA 90240

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioner Michael J. Copps

I am vehemently opposed to the FCC's adoption of a "broadcast flag". As a user of open-source software, adoption of the broadcast flag will mean I am unable to receive digital television broadcasts on my computer.

The personal freedoms that I enjoy as an open-source user will be significantly restricted, not because I'm breaking the law but because I MIGHT break the law. The oppressive strong-arm tactics of major corporations don't belong in a society of free ideas and innovation. In addition, these restrictions will have a chilling effect on ALL innovation, not just in the area of digital broadcasts.

In making this decision, you must think deeply about the benefits to all Americans, not to just a few select corporations. Instead of treating all Americans as criminals, you should revitalize the concept of "fair use" and apply punishments and restrictions only to those who are clearly breaking the law.

Sincerely,

Joan Nierut

RECEIVED

Calvin Howell

JAN 23 2004

From: Phil P [philnext@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2003 2:37 AM
To: Michael Copps
Subject: not happy with broadcast flag rules!!!!!! And really pissed off at FCC

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20541

02-230

How can a small number of FCC officials make rules for the people of the whole USA! Are you the majority of the people? Broadcast flag rules even though it only applies to Hd tv will ruin the industry as a whole. Any mandates cost us money as consumers and invade our privacy as a whole. I think your passed rule is unconstitutional and your are being paid off by the movies industry lobby people I hope your flag is hacked the first week in 2005. Consumers once they find out you mandated stuff in their home dvd recorders etc will be pissed off like i am now. YOU should all be fired or voted out. I will be writing to my congress you have gone too far. YOUR Job is to make standards not to madate copy protection rules, when did this become your job, with our tax payer money you will make it a federal crime to remove this flag from our home units, has the movie industry and you all gone mad? REVERSE THIS RULING IMMEDIATELY WE AS CONSUMERS ARE NOT HAPPY I WILL GET MEDIA NEWS TO ALERT THE PEOPLE, You have done this behind our backs just as the digital Milli act was passed behind our backs

Thanks,

Phil

Tired of slow downloads and busy signals? Get a high-speed Internet connection! Comparison-shop your local high-speed providers here.
<https://broadband.msn.com>

Stephanie Kost

From: unit321@johnscompany.net
Sent: Tuesday, December 30, 2003 11:11 AM
To: fcc@prd7.wynn.com
Subject: FCC NPRM 02-230 Comment

02-230

<PROCEEDING> 02-230
<DATE> 12/30/03
<DOCUMENT-TYPE> CO
<NAME> Alex
<CONTACT-EMAIL> unit321@johnscompany.net
<ADDRESS1> 600 S Cherry St #510
<CITY> Denver
<STATE> CO
<ZIP> 80246
<PHONE>

IAN 23 2004

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20541

<DESCRIPTION> *NPRM-02-230 Comment*

<TEXT> The new laws on copyright and FAIR USE are completely robbing us of our freedoms! We have a right to express ourselves. the fact that you have taken NO ACTION AGAINST THE SCANDALOUS WAYS THE RIAA IS USING TO STEAL MONEY FROM P2P USERS IS DISGRACEFULL! 1 SONG IS NOT WORTH 1000! THE RIAA IS A BUNCH OF PROFETEERING GLUTTONS AND THEY MAKE PLANTY OF MONEY THERE IS NO WAY THEY NEED TO MAKE MORE! THE FCC NEEDS TO TAKE DOWN THE RIAA A RECENT POLL REVEALED THAT 88.5 PERCENT OF AMERICANS WANTED FILE SHARING TO CONTINUE! DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS?? THE FCC IS SIDING WITH THE 20% OF THE POPULATION WHO LOVES THE RIAA. THESE 20% ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE RIAA! THE RIAA IS FULL OF PROFETEERING GLUTTONS THAT WANT NOTHING BUT MONEY! THEY HAVE NO SENSE OF RIGHT OR WRONG! THE RIAA SHOULD BE SHUT DOWN! I HOPE THAT EFF PULLS THROUGH FOR THE REAL AMERICANS WHO USE THEIR FREEDOMS AND DONT RESTRICT THEM. THE FCC IS NOTHING BUT GOVERNMENT CONTROLLING HO WE USE OUR FREEDOMS AND ! RIGHTS YOU CANT TAKE AWAY OUR RIGHTS. THE FCC SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF THE WAY THEY HAVE HANDLED THESE RECENT SITUATIONS!