

October 12, 2003

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

Dear Michael Copps,

I am writing to voice my opposition to any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV.

A robust, competitive market for consumer electronics must be rooted in manufacturers' ability to innovate for their customers. Allowing movie studios to veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This will result in products that don't necessarily reflect what consumers like me actually want, and it could result in me being charged more money for inferior functionality.

If the FCC issues a broadcast flag mandate, I would actually be less likely to make an investment in DTV-capable receivers and other equipment. I will not pay more for devices that limit my rights at the behest of Hollywood. Please do not mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Stanley Wright
Rt 92 PO Box 30
South Gibson, PA 18842
USA

October 12, 2003

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

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Sincerely,

Chad Jannusch
511 Meridian Lane
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
USA

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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Jeremy Porter
8 Tompkins St
Kingston, NY 12401
USA

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Sincerely,

Sherman Buck
2532 Humboldt Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
USA

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Sincerely,

Eric Schaub
3 Parkview Ave
Norwalk, CT 06853
USA

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Sincerely,

Timothy Burris
2751 N Esael Drive
Tucson, AZ 85715
USA

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Or it could result in my buying non-crippled equipment from foreign countries which do not have the mandate (if any happen to produce compatible equipment), although I would prefer to buy American.

If the FCC issues a broadcast flag mandate, I would actually be much less likely to make an investment in American-sold DTV-capable receivers and other equipment. I will not pay more for devices that limit my rights at the behest of Hollywood. Please do not mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Nathanael Nerode
406 Cayuga Hts Rd
Ithaca NY 14850
USA

October 12, 2003

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

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Sincerely,

Scott Stadum
219 6th Ave. NW
Faribault, MN 55021
USA

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Washington, D C 20554

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Sincerely,

Frank Merenda
148 Forest Lake Rd
Fendergrass, GA 30567
USA

October 28, 2003

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

Dear Michael Copps,

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Sincerely,

John Somers
345 Mustang
Port Aransas, TX 78373
USA

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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Gary Smith
5461 S Gilmore Rd
Fairfield, OH 45014
USA

Jerry Martin
703 gentlewind
Martinez, Ga, 30907

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, ReplayTV 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.

Sincerely,

Jerry Martin

Tuesday, October 28 2003

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

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

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

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later; clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie; send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative; or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

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 equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Wayne Bloss
573 Park Ave Apt 1B
Freehold, NJ 07728

Tuesday, October 28 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Charles J Chapman III
1552 N Detroit
Denver, CO 80206

Tuesday, October 28 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Charles S. Russell
P.O. Box 62498
Sunnyvale, CA 94088

Tuesday, October 28 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
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Sincerely,

John Ferlazzo
106 Pinehurst Place
Schenectady, NY 12304

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Sincerely,

Kevin Nicholson
1548 Vine Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely,

Paul Rusch
1521 Via Fernandez
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

Tuesday, October 28 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

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Sincerely,

Greg Lincoln
2225 Nursery Rd #29-203
Clearwater, FL 33764

Chris Poe
900 Debden Dr
Island Lake, IL 60042

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.

I am a proud member of the open source software movement. I help test, debug, document, and create software in collaboration with many others like me around the world. I have *never* knowingly participated in any unethical practices such as illegal music piracy, code stealing, patent or copyright infringement. I'm one of the good guys — one of the vast majority of good guys.

I respectfully submit that in the global economy one has of two choices. Participate or die. Artificial trade/technology barriers to said participation inevitably have unintended consequences to the overall detriment of our economy. The role of the FCC is not to protect the revenue stream of a minority of media companies, but to ensure that the general public has reasonable access to technologies and frequency spectrum. In a word: Freedom.

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 internet was built — literally — on open source software. The dirty secret of the IT industry is that the internet could not have been built by one organization. Period.

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 voted for George Bush primarily because the Republican platform philosophically wants free enterprise to work by getting government out of the way. This is one of those issues that tests if my vote was the correct one

Respectfully,

Chris Poe

Island Lake, IL

Sincerely,

Chris Poe

Tuesday, October 28 2003

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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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 equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Jerry Burkhart
5636 W. Melinda Lane
Glendale, AZ 85308

October 11, 2003

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

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Sincerely,

Daniel Avery
1231 8th Ave
Apt 1
San Francisco, CA 94122
USA

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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Sincerely,

Jay Machielse
8498 Hickory Hill Blvd.
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Tuesday, October 28 2003

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

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Commissioner Copps,

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

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable.

In addition, I am very concerned about the fair-use implications of the broadcast flag. With today's technology, I can be more than a passive recipient of content -- I can modify, create, and participate. I can record TV to watch later, clip a small piece of TV and splice it into a home movie, send an email clip of my child's football game to a distant relative, or record a TV program onto a DVD and play it at my friend's apartment. The broadcast flag seems designed to remove this control and flexibility that I enjoy.

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 equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

William D. Wade
580 Birch Rd
Southold, NY 11971