

To Whom This Might Concern At The FCC,

I am a consumer writing about the MPAA's petition to you to allow them to cripple recording devices using Selectable Output Control (SOC), such devices include DVRs, HD DVRs, etc; some of these boxes already use Digital Restrictions Management technology that violate consumer's fair use rights. Their reasoning is to prevent consumers from recording specific programming on the air (certain shows or movies that air) but in the process consumers would lose control of their own consumer electronics equipment. Should the MPAA really be able to control my TV? Just because these devices already use some DRM shouldn't mean we have to let Hollywood movie studios control our consumer electronics equipment.

Basically, SOC would enable Hollywood to actually shut off the video outputs on your cable box, DVR, or other recording device when particular movies or shows come on. When the movie's over, the outputs might turn back on.

We're not talking about an imaginary threat here. Hollywood has already tried this nonsense with the Broadcast Flag which the FCC already rejected.

Who gets to decide which outputs you can use on your home entertainment gear -- the movie studios or the public. Its our home entertainment gear -- consumers should be able to control their own consumer electronics products; their own home entertainment gear -- we should be able to control our own TVs, our own DVRs, VCRs, DVD Players etc -- they belong to us not the MPAA.