

Feb 3, 2011

FCC (Federal Communications Commission Public Comments)  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

97-80

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FEB 4 2011

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

As a consumer interested in protecting competition, innovation, and legitimate use of cable TV content, I urge you to refuse requests for waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1) by NCTA, Charter, Verizon, and all other cable providers. The FCC's integration ban, which in effect requires cable companies to integrate CableCARDS into their own set-top boxes, remains good policy today.

Now 15 years after the Telecommunications Act of 1996, cable companies have dragged their feet long enough on competitive alternatives to proprietary set-top boxes, thus hampering innovation and harming consumers. The integration ban will also help market competition prevent further restrictions on cable subscribers' ability to make legitimate use of recorded content.

I have personally been affected by these restrictions, despite spending a considerable amount of money on compliant devices to access services to which I lawfully subscribe. Restrictions such as these do absolutely nothing to stop "internet piracy," yet make things difficult and burdensome for consumers. It is far easier to (illegally) download content, than it is for me to lawfully record, transfer, decrypt, and convert content -- all using legal methods -- simply to watch the same content on another television or device within my own home.

By adopting content protection limits (encoding rules) in docket no. 97-80, the Commission recognized the importance of allowing consumers to make certain uses of TV content, regardless of a particular cable provider's or copyright holder's wishes. With competition spurred on by the integration ban, consumers would have the freedom to choose the least restrictive cable-compatible device available. The CableCARD standard already prescribes restrictions that harm consumers by limiting non-infringing uses, and such restrictions will get even worse if cable providers' set-top boxes are unchecked by competition.

Please refuse requests for waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Mr. Jason Hoomani  
4204 Petes Pl  
Franklin, TN 37064-1168

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Feb 2, 2011

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Please refuse requests for waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Mr. Terry Walsworth  
122 W Woodlawn Rd  
Rm 236  
Charlotte, NC 28217-2172  
(734) 224-8485

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Jan 23, 2011

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Please refuse requests for waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Mr. James Schramm  
8616 Henry St  
Saint Louis, MO 63136-3836  
(314) 388-1565

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Jan 22, 2011

FCC (Federal Communications Commission Public Comments)  
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Please refuse requests for waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Mr. Jordon Berkove  
15976 Fern Way  
Guerneville, CA 95446-9331  
(707) 869-3446

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Jan 30, 2011

FCC (Federal Communications Commission Public Comments)  
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Washington, DC 20554

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Please refuse requests for waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Zdyrko  
251 Hillcrest Ct  
Camden, DE 19934-1281  
(302) 697-0894

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