

To Whom it may Concern,

Begging for an accessible TV or other equipment straight from a manufacturer is unacceptable. It is nearly impossible to get my voice heard when contacting several manufacturers and pointing out the fact that I am unable to use their electronic equipment to its full potential because of my limited vision. It was an obvious intention of Congress, and it is the expectation of people who are blind or vision impaired across America, that TVs and TV like equipment would be readily accessible and available in commercial retail stores.

The agreement reached upon by us and the cable/satellite companies neither involved the consumer electronics lobby at the time nor applies to their client companies now.

People in the vision loss and blind community will not stand for the consumer electronics lobbies proposed gutting of one of the most popular and important part of the CVAA. My frustrations lie in knowing what I am watching. Coming from a sighted world and loving electronics, I am usually able to find the volume and channel buttons pretty easily, mostly because of their shape. This is only two buttons on my current 74 button remote. Ok, I also know where the five is due to the bumps on it, therefore figuring out the 1 through 9 keys and the 0 key. I also know the power button, but it would be so much better for me, to use the menu, guide, know what the other buttons do so that I can enjoy all the free on demand channels, the on screen TV guide, description of the episode and audio description of the program so I can catch that slap stick humor or the Three Stooges, or other physical actions not seen by us who are vision impaired or blind. It is frustrating to sit and only listen to a show, not getting the jokes my sighted relatives or friends are laughing at.

It is sad that we have to make companies do this and they haven't done it on their own, and keep it relatively inexpensive because most of us who are blind or vision impaired are on some sort fixed income, SSI or SSDI.

Andy Weller
634 S. Drake Rd Apt K5
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
wellerandy1977@gmail.com
andrew4411 on skype