

To Whom It May Concern:

As a working, blind consumer, I am thrilled that I am supposed to, in 2014, finally be able to purchase television equipment and access that I can use thanks to the CVAA. Up until now I have been forced to spend a lot of money for equipment that is not fully usable by blind people. In essence I get less service than everyone else because I cannot access the programming and features that I have purchased. I essentially cannot use a TV even as well as I could in the old analog days. If I accidentally hit the mute button I can't even return my TV to usability without sighted assistance.

The eleventh hour attempt by the consumer electronics industry to repeal requirements to produce accessible equipment is unacceptable and outrageous, actually. This multi-billion dollar industry is attempting to convince you that their need for continuously increasing profit is more important than the needs of millions of Americans who purchase their equipment and cannot use it to access basic information and mainstream entertainment. The numbers of visually impaired Americans is increasing. Manufacturers have a moral obligation and now a legal obligation to produce equipment that people with visual disabilities can use. Please do not fall prey to their resistance to fulfilling their obligations. They must be required to comply with the law irrespective of what happens to their already formidable profits.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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