

Dear Ms. Pallante,

As the purchaser and end user of Smartphone's, Tablet's, and other hardware I should retain the right to load any software I obtain legally. Many hardware manufacturers put artificial handcuffs on their devices limiting the devices full potential. Additionally, many hardware manufacturers do not have the resources to fully support a device through its TRUE lifecycle thus relegating the device to premature obsolescence through lack of support by updated operating systems and tweaks.

Many efforts by hobbyists like me help to expose many security vulnerabilities and software modifications therefore extending the life cycle and closing these security vulnerabilities, consequently improving the experience of everyone who uses these devices. It is only through bringing these discoveries to light that hardware manufacturers are "forced" to address security issues and incorporate innovative solutions to secure and optimize the performance of their hardware. Let us be realistic and understand that many manufacturers do not look for security vulnerabilities on their own and are only brought to the attention of everyone by our efforts. Most of these security vulnerabilities and performance modifications are discovered by those who chose to look into the devices hardware and software capabilities. It is through the collaborative efforts of hobbyists and enthusiasts that many of the innovations available today are included for the average user "off the shelf". Ending this exemption would be like forcing users to purchase a new PC every time Microsoft releases a patch.

Please do not make it illegal and thrust us back into the days where we were dependant on the manufacturers to implement positive change is based on faith that hardware manufacturers of smart phones, tablets, and video game systems would have the resources available and desire to perform this valuable research we provide never wanting us to purchase the next innovation even though it could be applied to a piece of hardware already released, purchased and legally owned in the market.

Thank you in advance for your time and understanding.

Cheers,

Gary J. Camp