

To Whom It May Concern:

I am an Information Technology contractor writing to support an extension to Section 1201 of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). There are two primary reasons this exemption should not only be extended but made permanent.

1. Often software is installed by the manufacturer or carrier that present a security problem for industry. These programs cannot be recognized and/or removed without "jail breaking" the device. If the exemption for cell phones, tablets and gaming rigs is not extended thousands of businesses and IT departments, not to mention individual contractors will necessarily have to break the law in order to secure their corporate devices.

2. It is a matter of ownership. If I (or a company) purchase a device they ought to have full license to do with that device as they please. It is wholly inappropriate for a manufacturer or service provider to dictate what are clearly ownership concerns. There are reasonable expectations, for instance a manufacturer may void a warranty if the device owner uses it outside of the terms of use, and it is appropriate for a carrier or service provider to dictate some terms related to the delivery of the service. These are obvious and long-held agreements between manufacturers/service providers and their customers. That said, if a product owner wants to risk voiding a warranty or being denied service from a provider in order to pursue their own research on a device that they own, it defies liberty to pass a law that prevents the owner from doing so.

In summary, for purposes of both security and liberty the exemption should be extended at the very least, and preferably made permanent.