

name:Bryan King  
address:204 Meadow Trail Lane, Apt F, Highland Height, KY 41076  
phone: 606-323-4472  
email:bjking0@sac.uky.edu  
no company, no fax

I would look like to state my opinion that I do not approve of the DMCA because it infringes on the rights of software designers, and on the rights of consumers. In particular, I'm most concerned about DeCSS. This program was created so that users of the Linux operating system could actually watch DVDs that they had lawfully purchased. The MPAA currently claims that the program is used to get around copy protection in order to illegally distribute movies. This is a ridiculous claim once one understands the facts. DeCSS does not aid in pirating because one can already do that by copying a DVD bit by bit. The important thing here is that currently DVDs can only be VIEWED through specific programs/hardware. The users of Linux have payed for DVDs and the intellectual property contained within, but are unable to view it.

If the DeCSS case is won in favor of the DVD it may very well mark the end of the Open Source community and in particular Linux. It's absolutely nec. that the right of software engineers to reverse engineer programs in order to have interoperability be sustained. If a company can simply encrypt things and claim that the encryption is a copywrite they will be able to control the market. Thank you,

Bryan King