Name: Thomas Parker

Class of works: I am writing in support of Class #2 (DVD Region Coding): Audiovisual works stored on Digital Versatile Disks ("DVDs") that are not available in Region 1 DVD format and access to which is prevented by technological measures.

Summary:

Disc name: I don't remember--I bought two DVDs, and I had to return them due to region encoding.

Thanks to region coding (which amounts to an illegal segmentation of markets to enable price-fixing), I found that I couldn't watch any DVD I purchased at Heathrow airport while trapped there 8 hours by a flight cancellation. The DVDs wouldn't work. I wasn't allowed to watch them. And thanks to pressure from content creators, both my hardware and my software worked to deny me the right to watch my movies. Region coding does NOT help protect content providers rights to their works -- in many cases, the discs can be copied with region coding intact. It simply ensures that licensing authorities control where their products can be viewed -- a right definitely not specified in the Constitution.