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April 14, 2004

Federal Trade Commission/Office of the Secretary Room 159-H 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20580

Re: CAN-SPAM Act Rulemaking, Project No. R411008

To the Commissioners,

I am very happy that steps are being taken to curb the amount of spam on the web, but very concerned about the ramifications of the proposed requirement for merchants to maintain suppression lists.

I feel this will have a hugely negative effect to legitimate business in terms of cost and potential problems.

Requirement of the use of suppression lists will seriously damage many of the legitimate publications available on the net. My specific concern is for harm to publishers who require permission from the consumer prior to adding them to any list.

CAN-SPAM was designed to put unscrupulous, non-legitimate businesses out of work, but this ruling will have the effect of shutting down many legitimate, viable online and offline businesses who haven't got the manpower to police this cumbersome proposed system.

There's also the potential for significant harm to consumers, because of the problem of properly knowing their intent when they unsubscribe from a list. On top of that, these suppression lists could easily fall into the hands of spammers, leading to more spam instead of less.

I am very concerned about the potential problems this ruling could involve and urge you in the strongest possible terms to reconsider its implementation in light of these problems.

Respectfully,

Mustine Braukwaile

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BC, Canada



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