

Hello-

I was recently made aware of the expiration of the DMCA exemption for certain digital devices. I'm writing because it's important to me and my family that the exemption be renewed and extended to tablets and video consoles as well.

My father has very bad arthritis to the point where he has to take a lot of medicine that makes him extremely tired so he has to spend a lot of time in bed. At first he could use his phone normally but his arthritis got real bad and he wasn't able to use his phone very well at all (dialing was even a challenge at that point). I looked for a solution but none was really available until my cousin suggested we download other firmware that would allow us to get a more more arthritis-friendly interface for someone in his condition. This made a world of difference since we could make the phone much easier for him to use and he could even talk many of the commands for his phone. It worked so well he got himself a tablet that we modified to allow us to change it.

My father worked his whole life as an autobody repair man and shop teacher so the debilitating nature of his condition was especially hard on him. Without a doubt, the ability to modify his devices improved his quality of life drastically. He even now is on the internet more than I and is even trying to learn how to make tools for others in similar situation. I'm supporting this exemption because of how I know it helped my family and also because I don't know how it could help others in situations that are as unique as ours.

Thank you,
Timish Boyko