

Short Comment Regarding a Proposed Exemption Under 17 U.S.C. 1201

Item 1. Commenter Information

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Item 2. Proposed Class Addressed

Proposed Class 21: Vehicle software –diagnosis, repair, or modification

Item 3. Statement Regarding Proposed Exemption

Here's a suggestion... why don't you take a page out of the 'IT Industry' and place warning notifications on all pertinent parts that state the following: "Tampering with enclosed hardware and/or software will void any and all warranty and hold manufacturer completely harmless of the results of said tampering." OR>>> another little sentence found on ALL Hard drives: "Product warranty will be void if seal label or cover is removed or damaged." We all know that Data Recovery is a fairly large industry and hard drives do get repaired all the time for the purpose of recovering data should the hard drive 'go bad.' So.. why not apply the same concept here? Allow people to 'tinker' with their cars.. (they own them after-all), and place warning labels on those 'pieces / parts' that require protection to protect the manufacturer from said 'tinkering' but still allow those individuals to 'tinker.' Microsoft has been doing this for years and as a result...look at their product now. Microsoft Operating Systems have benefited greatly from people from IT Managers to individuals who have 'tinkered' with their software and then submitted suggestions and/or fixes. Only good can result from a collaboration of efforts from the masses. However, the need to protect the manufacturer is great. Therefore, I recommend labeling be put in place for those individuals who make modifications, warning them that in doing so, warranties may be voided and the manufacturer would be rendered harmless if such modifications caused someone injury, including the individual who made the modifications. Just a thought.

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