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This is a comment on the Exemption to Prohibition on Circumvention of Copyright Protection Systems for Access Control Technologies.

This comment specifically addresses class 5: smartphones and tablets.

Summary:

Some legitimate, lawful, and useful applications cannot be installed on iPhone or Android smartphones without jailbreaking or rooting the devices.

iPhone:

I am a hobbyist iPhone developer. I have developed one app that I would just like to use on my own phone. I have no interest in selling this app. I might consider distributing this app for free, but for now, it is only for myself.

In order to do this, not only do I have to hack the Apple iPhone development software (XCode), but I also have to jailbreak my phone. Otherwise, it is not possible to deploy an app developed by myself to my own phone without having an Apple certificate. In order to obtain an Apple certificate, I must pay a yearly fee (currently \$99). I find it outrageous that I would have to pay anything to put an app I developed myself on my own phone.

There are also some useful apps that other developers have made for the iPhone which Apple refuses to allow on the App Store. The only way to install these apps is to jailbreak the phone. Some of these apps include:

- * SSH access to the phone
- * Quick access buttons to enable or disable wifi, ssh, airplane mode, bluetooth, etc.

Android:

I am also an Android developer. Some features on Android devices are only available by jailbreaking (rooting) the phone. These include:

- * installing alternative operating systems (alternative, legally developed and published distributions of Android such as Cyanogen). These alternative OS's provide:
 - additional settings for the device which are not available in the distribution provided by the vendor.
 - better performance
 - greater security: more control over denying specific permissions to apps
- * ad blockers