



NEWS

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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**STATEMENT FROM FCC CHAIRMAN JULIUS GENACHOWSKI ON THE COPYRIGHT
OFFICE OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS POSITION ON DMCA AND UNLOCKING NEW
CELL PHONES**

Washington, D.C. – The following statement is attributable to FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski:

“The Copyright Office of the Library of Congress recently reversed its longstanding position and stated it is a violation of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act for consumers to unlock new mobile phones, even those outside of contract periods, without their wireless providers’ permission, and that consumers are subject to criminal penalties if they do.

"From a communications policy perspective, this raises serious competition and innovation concerns, and for wireless consumers, it doesn't pass the common sense test. The FCC is examining this issue, looking into whether the agency, wireless providers, or others should take action to preserve consumers' ability to unlock their mobile phones. I also encourage Congress to take a close look and consider a legislative solution."

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