

From: Ellen Noble

Sent: March 12, 2012 9:56 PM

To: Paradis, Christian - Député; Moore, James - M.P.; Moore, James - M.P.; Thibeault, Glenn - M.P.; Angus, Charlie - M.P.; Armstrong, Scott - M.P.; Benskin, Tyrone - M.P.; Braid, Peter - M.P.; Calandra, Paul - M.P.; Cash, Andrew - M.P.; Del Mastro, Dean - M.P.; Lake, Mike - M.P.; McColeman, Phil - M.P.; Moore, Rob - M.P.; Nantel, Pierre - Député; Regan, Geoff - M.P.; ~Legislative Committee Bill C-11/Comité législatif loi C-11

Subject: Concerns about digital locks in Bill C-11

Dear Honourable Ministers,

As Bill C-11 enters the clause-by-clause review stage, I feel that it is necessary to share my concerns about this bill. Bill C-11 contains many necessary and welcome changes to current legislation, particularly in its addition of education, parody, and satire to the realm of fair dealing.

However, it would prohibit the circumvention of digital locks for any purpose, even if that purpose is already protected under the new terms of fair dealing. This clause has the potential to nullify the benefits of Bill C-11 in supporting educational use and other types of fair dealing and will severely limit access to information for legitimate purposes. This problem could easily be solved if it was specified that circumventing a digital is illegal in cases not covered by fair dealing. I am aware that at this stage the government does not plan to alter the terms on digital locks. Nevertheless I urge you to listen to the suggestions of the thousands of Canadians from all political backgrounds, not to mention the two main Opposition parties, and to reconsider the technological protection measures in Bill C-11.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Ellen Noble