



For Immediate Release

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Announcement

Reject the Revised FCC Set-top Box Proposal

Washington - "The Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO - representing millions of highly skilled professional and technical employees - joins a growing chorus of unions and guilds in opposing the FCC's revised set-top box proposal. The FCC proposed rule creates an unacceptable and unworkable de facto compulsory licensing regime that requires creators to allow their work to be shared across multiple platforms without compensation and without regard to the creators' rights to exclusively control their distribution. The FCC does not have this authority. The one-sided proposal undermines the value of creative works, shrinks revenue streams from which middle-class creators depend on to make a living, and threatens the hard fought wages and benefits of creative industry workers.

Copyright protections are the foundation of an industry that employs millions of hard working middle-class Americans. Copyright dependent industries provide important benefits and security to working families. By diminishing copyright protections in the name of set-top box competition, the Commission risks jeopardizing this vibrant industry."

About the Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO

The Department for Professional Employees (DPE) is a coalition of 22 national unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO which represent over four million highly skilled professional and technical workers. DPE unions include professionals in over three hundred occupations in health care and education; science, engineering and technology; journalism, entertainment and the arts; public administration; and law enforcement. The DPE is the largest association of professional and technical workers in the United States.