

Federal Trade Commission
CAN-SPAM act
April 15, 2004

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Re: CAN-SPAM Act Rulemaking, Project No. R411008

To the Commissioners,

I applaud your efforts to curb the problem of unsolicited bulk email. However, I am concerned about the proposed requirement for merchants to maintain suppression lists.

There are so many problems and costs associated with this idea, and so much damage done to consumers and businesses alike, that I feel I must urge you to consider this matter most carefully.

Requirement of the use of suppression lists will seriously damage many of the legitimate publications available on the net. My specific concern is for harm to publishers or webmasters who require permission from the consumer prior to adding them to any list.

They're not who CAN-SPAM was designed to put out of business, but this requirement will very likely have that effect. And that would be a great detriment to all who earn their living or who want to earn their living on the internet, as well as those, like me, who supplement their income on the internet. I am on Social Security, and it would affect me greatly.

There's also the potential for significant harm to consumers, because of the problem of properly knowing their intent when they unsubscribe from a list. On top of that, these suppression lists could easily fall into the hands of spammers, leading to more spam instead of less.

I was quite surprised at the potential problems this ruling could involve, and urge you in the strongest possible terms to reconsider its implementation in light of these problems,

I actually do not HATE spam, but delete it as fast as I can. I also do not hate junk mail, telephone solicitors, or advertising on television. I believe they are necessary to a free economy.

In fact, I do not think the Federal Government should make laws restricting trade. I can turn off the TV or mute the commercials: I have the choice of answering my telephone or not;; I can delete most of my spam emails with one click of my mouse. I can throw my junk mail away. In other words, **let me be responsible** for what I want to accept.

Respectfully,



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