JUNE 6, 2013

HARLEY:

Consumer Action is pleased to support Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren’s bill, Unlocking Technology Act (HR 1892) to allow consumers, repair shops and educators the ability to unlock mobile phones.

We believe that HR 1982 is a common sense approach to making cellphone unlocking accessible to the average consumer while not infringing on anyone’s copyright property rights. This bill would create a narrow copyright exemption to allow consumers to take their cellphone business elsewhere without fear of legal violation.

The Unlocking Technology Act would ensure that all mobile devices (phones and tablets) could be permanently and legally unlocked. Other proposals only offer a temporary fix. HR 1892 would solve the phone unlocking problem for good.

Consumer Action is pleased to support a bill that makes permanent the ability for consumers to switch cellphone carriers without having to fear that this process may be deemed illegal every few years.

Copyright violations of music and movies would remain illegal. This bi-partisan bill would protect copyright holders while allowing for meaningful changes to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) that made unlocking a phone illegal to begin with.

SINCERELY,

RUTH SUSSWEIN

CONSUMER ACTION

Consumer Action has been a champion of underrepresented consumers since 1971. A national, nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, Consumer Action focuses on financial education that empowers low to moderate income and limited-English-speaking consumers to financially prosper. It also advocates for consumers in the media and before lawmakers to advance consumer rights and promote industry-wide change particularly in the fields of credit, banking, housing, privacy, insurance and utilities. www.consumer-action.org