

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on the Joint Strategic Plan  
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Victoria Espinel  
Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator  
Office of Management and Budget  
Executive Office of the President  
Filed via email

Dear Ms. Espinel:

The quest for intellectual property enforcement has become disconnect from reality. Copyright, for example, was originally for a limited period of time (14 years). Now it has been expanded to the life of the author plus 50 years, or 75 years for a work of corporate authorship. Not only has the time span expanded, but so has the scope of what is covered under so-called intellectual property. Given the ever expensive trend, how much is enough?

The fact that comments are being solicited implies that those who seek so-called intellectual property protection are still not satisfied and are attempting to further increased their so-called rights. What is seldom considered, which I hope that you will consider, is that the users of content have rights too. These rights are being taken away in the name of "protecting" the so-called rights of the content creator.

Let us not forget that the purpose of copyright/patents is to allow the creator with a LIMITED right to further the progress in science and the arts. Instead of being a limited right it is evolving into an unlimited right to erect "toll-booths" to extort a perpetual revenue stream. As a capitalistic country the State should not be protecting a companies revenue stream.

Another issue not being adequately evaluated is that the content creators are now using these laws to deprive the consumer of their fair use of content. In depriving the consumer of fair use, these laws also shot-circuit the concept of "due process". That is the content producers can use the law to obstruct fair use with impunity.

If the law is to mean anything, we need to have balance. A law that serves one special interest group at the expense of another does not create a level playing field. Additionally, if respect for the law is to mean anything, everyone needs to be treated fairly. Please propose a legal construct that recognizes the original purpose of copyright/patent law and respects the rights of consumers.

Stephen Rynas  
1602 Chip Shot Drive  
Morehead City, NC 28557

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