

I voted Yes on H.R. 2471, to clarify that a video tape service provider may obtain a consumer's informed consent on an ongoing basis and that consent may be obtained through the Internet.

H.R. 2471 would update a 1988 law that prohibits any owner of a video rental store from disclosing any consumer rental history. The only way such information could be shared is by written consent from the consumer each time rental history is to be shared.

In recent years, however, the Internet has changed how we consume and share movies and other media. H.R. 2471 would give consumers the ability to "opt-in" to sharing movies they watch online, from providers such as Netflix, with social networks like Twitter and Facebook, and without written consent each time they utilize such a feature. Under the bill, individuals would be able to opt-out of the consent agreement at anytime.

I support this simple fix to update our laws regarding video usage in the Internet age. The bill was approved by a vote of 303 – 116.