

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/02/27/2012-4399/incorporation-by-reference#p-14>

"Reasonably available" means that it should not be difficult to find documents that define what is essentially the law. I would argue that we have never had reasonable availability to anything incorporated by reference. Seeking out a provider of such documents and paying them fees so that we may comply with the law does not seem reasonable in any case.

That is, how can we know we've broken a rule if we weren't aware the rules existed, what they were, or how to obtain them?

Because it pertains to the laws that govern us, it makes sense that in this situation "reasonably available" has to mean "for free, on the Internet" in addition to whatever various other means one accesses the text of our laws.

The definition should also encompass offline methods of access, so that folks without access to the Internet would continue to have the same resources they have now for perusing the laws of the land.

The only other alternative I can think of would be to make standards and codes and whatnot be non-binding, voluntary things. It can make sense to charge a fee for participation in standards that are voluntary. If an individual or business wanted to advertise that they are compliant with some set of standards, they would pay for that right, but it would not be illegal for them not to comply with every rule should they choose not to pay.

Thanks for your time.

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