

PUBLIC.RESOURCE.ORG ~ A Nonprofit Corporation

Open Source America's Operating System "It's Not Just A Good Idea—It's The Law!"

November 9, 2010

Honorable Darrell Issa U.S. House of Representatives 2347 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Issa:

I am writing to you about FedFlix, a program our nonprofit conducts that makes government-produced video widely available with no restrictions. We have digitized over 4,500 videos produced at taxpayer expense. We've posted videos from all 3 branches of the federal government and have worked with the National Archives, the Department of Defense, and the Department of Commerce.

I am pleased to inform you that the Legislative Branch is now part of FedFlix and it is probably no surprise to you that the first Committee with videos on-line is your own Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. We've purchased 503 DVDs of hearings from C-SPAN, and with their permission have begun to post these on YouTube, the Internet Archive, and as a broadcast-quality resource available to the news media and others.

By this letter, I would be very pleased to offer to furnish the Committee, at no charge, with a disk drive containing all 503 hearings, which you could use for your own web site or to furnish to the National Archives and the House Office Of History and Preservation as part of the Committee's permanent record.

There are two other sources of video for hearings, and it would be wonderful if the Committee were to become the first with a truly comprehensive archive of proceedings available to the general public:

- 1. The House Broadcast Studio has 500 hearings from the Committee. With the FedFlix program, if you send us the tapes, we'll digitize them and promptly return the tapes along with a digital version of your data. There is no charge to the government and we'll even pay postage.
- 2. On an ongoing basis, the Committee does a great job webcasting your hearings. But, if you furnished us with a DVD after each hearing, we could post the material and make broadcast-quality video available to the news media and on services such as YouTube.

These two simple steps would be a great way to increase the transparency of your committee and would be very much welcomed by all Americans.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Malamud Public.Resource.Org