

August 1, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

50 State Broadcast Associations Urge Passage of the Music Modernization Act

Dear Leaders McConnell and Schumer,

The undersigned broadcasters associations representing local, over-the-air broadcast stations in all 50 States, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico urge your swift consideration and passage of the Music Modernization Act (MMA) (S. 2823) without major amendments. The MMA passed both the entire House of Representatives and Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously, and reflects historic consensus between songwriters, recording artists, producers, music publishers, record labels, streaming services, broadcasters, and other licensees to solve numerous issues to the benefit of the entire music ecosystem and consumers alike.

Local television and radio broadcasters are particularly appreciative that the Senate Judiciary Committee included language to formalize congressional oversight of the Department of Justice's (DOJ) review of the antitrust consent decrees governing the two largest performing rights organizations – ASCAP and BMI – that provide licenses to local radio and TV stations for the use of songs. Unwarranted changes or termination of these decrees that form the backbone of the music licensing marketplace would have a drastic impact on all who publicly perform music, from local broadcast stations, to digital music services, to bars and restaurants, ultimately restricting access to music and harming consumers. By establishing meaningful congressional oversight of DOJ's review, the MMA will help prevent the marketplace chaos that would result from DOJ seeking termination of these decrees without a sufficient alternative framework in place.

Additionally, radio broadcasters are grateful that the MMA does not include any new performance royalty on AM/FM radio and thank the more than 250 bipartisan House and Senate cosponsors of the Local Radio Freedom Act (H.Con.Res. 13, S.Con.Res. 6) for their support. This remains an issue best left for the marketplace and parties to resolve.

For these reasons, local broadcasters across our great nation fully support the MMA and urge its swift passage without major changes.

Respectfully,

Sharon M. Tinsley



Alabama Broadcasters Association
Sharon Tinsley

Cathy Hiebert



Alaska Broadcasters Association
Cathy Hiebert

Art Brooks



Arizona Broadcasters Association
Art Brooks

Q. Luke Story



Arkansas Broadcasters Association
Luke Story

Joe Berry



California Broadcasters Association
Joe Berry

Justin Sasso



Colorado Broadcasters Association
Justin Sasso

Michael Patrick Ryan



Connecticut Broadcasters Association
Michael Patrick Ryan

C. Patrick Roberts



Florida Association of Broadcasters
C. Patrick Roberts

Bob Houghton



Georgia Association of Broadcasters
Bob Houghton

Jamie Hartnett



Hawaii Association of Broadcasters
Jamie Hartnett

Connie M. Searles



Idaho State Broadcasters Association
Connie Searles

Dennis Lyle



Illinois Broadcasters Association
Dennis Lyle

Dave Arland



Indiana Broadcasters Association
Dave Arland

Sue Toma



Iowa Broadcasters Association
Sue Toma

Kent M. Cornish



Kansas Association of Broadcasters
Kent Cornish

Chris Winkle



Kentucky Broadcasters Association
Chris Winkle

Polly Prince Johnson



Louisiana Association of Broadcasters
Polly Prince Johnson

Suzanne Goucher



Maine Association of Broadcasters
Suzanne Goucher

Lisa Reynolds



Maryland/D.C./Delaware (MDCD) Broadcasters Association
Lisa Reynolds

Jordan Walton



Massachusetts Broadcasters Association
Jordan Walton

Karole L. White



Michigan Association of Broadcasters
Karole L. White

Stephen M. Usery



Minnesota Broadcasters Association
Stephen Usery

Karla Hooten

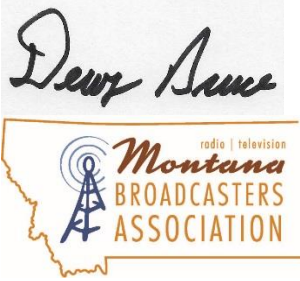


Mississippi Association of Broadcasters
Karla Hooten

Mark Gordon



Missouri Broadcasters Association
Mark Gordon



Montana Broadcasters Association
Dewey Bruce



Nebraska Broadcasters Association
Jim Timm



Nevada Broadcasters Association
Mitch Fox



New Hampshire Association of Broadcasters
Tracy Caruso



New Jersey Broadcasters Association
Paul Rotella



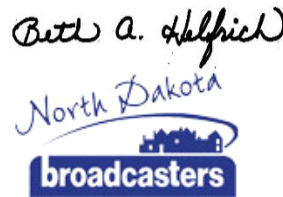
New Mexico Broadcasters Association
Paula Maes



New York State Broadcasters Association
David Donovan



North Carolina Association of Broadcasters
Lisa Reynolds



North Dakota Broadcasters Association
Beth Helfrich



Ohio Association of Broadcasters
Christine Merritt



Oklahoma Association of Broadcasters
Vance Harrison



Oregon Association of Broadcasters
John Tamerlano

Joe Conti



PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS
Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters
Joe Conti

Jose A. Ribas



ASOCIACION DE RADIODIFUSORES DE PUERTO RICO
Radio Broadcasters Association of Puerto Rico
Jose A. Ribas Dominicci

Lori Needham



Rhode Island Broadcasters Association
Lori Needham

Margaret Wallace



South Carolina Broadcasters Association
Margaret Wallace

Steve Willard



South Dakota Broadcasters Association
Steve Willard

Whit Adamson



Tennessee Association of Broadcasters
Tennessee Association of Broadcasters
Whit Adamson

Oscar Rodriguez



Texas Association of Broadcasters
Oscar Rodriguez

Michele Zabriskie



Utah Broadcasters Association
Michele Zabriskie

Jim Condon



Vermont Association of Broadcasters
Jim Condon

Doug Easter



Virginia Association of Broadcasters
Doug Easter

Keith Shipman



Washington State Association of Broadcasters
Keith Shipman

Michele Crist



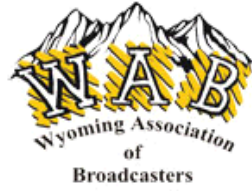
West Virginia Broadcasters Association
Michele Crist

Michelle Vetterkind



Wisconsin Broadcasters Association
Michelle Vetterkind

Laura Grott



Wyoming Association of Broadcasters
Laura Grott