



Don't Put Minority Artists Out of Business **Oppose S.Con.Res. 14 / H.Con.Res. 49**

Broadcasters are urging Members to support S. Con. Res. 14 / H. Con. Res. 49, the "Local Radio Freedom Act." This bill supports corporate radio broadcasters taking the work of individual minority artists without compensating them for its use. We urge you not to co-sponsor this harmful Resolution.

The broadcaster resolutions oppose direct compensation to minority artists for their work

A guaranteed share of the royalties opposed by the broadcasters would go directly to artists and would not be subject to any record company recoupment.

The economic hardship claim is bankrupt

Broadcasters claim the corporations they represent should be able to take the work of individual minority artists without paying a fair wage because the current economy makes it "the worst time" to pay. No one is suffering more right now than individual working performers. This is "the worst time" not to pay them for their work.

The law would recognize economic hardship by making significant accommodations for approximately 80% of all African-American and female-owned stations, and assure they would never pay more than \$5,000 *per year* for all the music they can use. (In fact, many will pay as little as \$100 *per year*.) But that compensation would make a significant difference in the income of thousands of working people.

This issue should be negotiated between corporate broadcasters and artists

Broadcasters claim they provide "promotional value" that can lead to record sales as an excuse to avoid their own payment for their own use – noting how appreciative some performers are for airplay. This places broadcasters in an excellent bargaining position to negotiate a fair price for the music they use. Artists are willing to have that negotiation and to figure promotional value into the price. But broadcasters refuse to negotiate. Their only answer is to take the work of minority artists with not a penny of compensation for its use.

Please protect minority artists who deserve to get paid for their work by corporations who profit from it. **Oppose S.Con.Res. 14 / H.Con.Res. 49, the "Local Radio Freedom Act"** and support S. 379 / H.R. 848, the "Performance Rights Act."