



# Resolution

## OPPOSING THE PERFORMANCE RIGHTS ACT

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- WHEREAS** the United States Congress has introduced the Performance Rights Act, which could create a new and additional copyright royalty entitlement regarding music which would be imposed as a fee on broadcasters that play music, and would be in addition to those existing fees that result from existing copyright royalty rights;
- WHEREAS** these bills purport to advance the creative, intellectual property rights of music “performers,” yet in reality according to testimony in congressional hearings, a substantial share of at least half of all such new music “performance” fees would go to the music record companies rather than to the performers;
- WHEREAS** such a new “performance rights” fee would devastate the radio music industry, and in particular Christian radio, at a time when both advertising revenues and charitable donations have declined and Christian radio is facing unprecedented economic challenges; and at the same time this proposed legislation ignores the success of the traditional relationship of mutual benefit that has existed between radio, which has hitherto played music without remunerating music performers, and music performers, who benefit from free air-play promotion over radio which in turn has been shown to have been a primary factor in facilitating the sales of the CD’s and the music of musical performers;
- RESOLVED** that National Religious Broadcasters urges Congress to oppose the Performance Rights Act.