Resolution

Opposing H.R. 4789 and Similar Attempts to Impose New Music “Performance Fees” on Terrestrial Radio

WHEREAS a bill in the House of Representatives, H.R. 4789, has been introduced which would impose for the first time on radio stations that play music, a new “performance fee” for the benefit of musical performers and others in the music industry; and

WHEREAS music labels and artists already receive royalties and compensation for musical recordings through the sales of records, albums, CDs, DVDs and music videos, and other commercial uses of their music; and

WHEREAS artists and music labels have consistently benefited from the airing of their music on radio, in that such broadcast airing has substantial public promotional value and results in the increase of retail and commercial sale of such music; and

WHEREAS this bill sets into motion a harmful and inequitable precedent, and constructs a financially onerous burden on radio broadcasters, including religious broadcasters, and threatens the expansion of new broadcasting ventures and threatens the continued existence of others, including those of religious broadcasters; Therefore be it

RESOLVED that the National Religious Broadcasters opposes H.R. 4789 and any similar proposal that would impose a new “performance fee” on terrestrial radio broadcasters playing music.

Approved by the Board of Directors March 7, 2008