



June 11, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Speaker Pelosi, and Leaders Schumer, McConnell and McCarthy:

On behalf of National Religious Broadcasters (NRB), I write today to ask that you support the Local Radio Freedom Act (H. Con. Res. 33 and S. Con. Res. 9), which would protect local radio stations that play music as part of their programming from having to pay new performance royalties that would cripple, and in some cases decimate, the ability of such radio stations to continue operations. At a time when local radio stations are recovering from the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, imposing a new performance royalty would further devastate local radio stations already struggling to stay afloat. Levying this new fee would also ignore the great promotional value and other benefits free, local radio provides to performers and listeners alike.

NRB is an association of Christian communicators whose 1,200 member organizations serve millions of listeners, viewers, and readers. Among NRB's valued members are numerous radio stations and networks that play music, including contemporary Christian, Gospel, and sacred music, in their programming day. Those stations may face burdensome and possibly financially fatal royalty fees in the absence of the protections of the Local Radio Freedom Act.

Religious broadcasters are a critical voice for Christian audiences, informing, educating, and entertaining them. They provide life-saving news and information to their listeners, especially during national emergencies and natural disasters. They also provide free publicity and exposure for the recording industry and performers through radio air play, interviews, introduction of new performers, concert promotions, music videos, and merchandise associated with performers. A performance royalty would financially cripple local Christian radio stations, thereby jeopardizing local jobs and harming local radio listeners.

The Local Radio Freedom Act protects free, local radio stations from burdensome performance royalty fees that could further devastate Christian broadcasters, who are a lifeline for the



communities they serve. I respectfully urge you to express your strong support of this crucial bipartisan resolution.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Troy A. Miller", is written over the typed name.

Troy A. Miller
Chief Executive Officer
National Religious Broadcasters