



May 10, 2018

The Honorable Charles Grassley
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein,

Internet Association supports the Music Modernization Act, S. 2823, and urges the Judiciary Committee to move the bill forward. Your leadership, along with the work of Senators Hatch, Alexander, Coons, and Whitehouse, has led to a bill that has broad bipartisan support and has achieved consensus among industry and civil society stakeholders. The more than 40 members of Internet Association include the most innovative and forward-thinking companies in the world. Our members include the leading providers of streaming music services, and they depend on clear, fair, and reliable rules for licensing music.

Current law requires music streaming services to obtain licenses on a song-by-song basis, and there is no reliable source of information on ownership records. For streaming services that offer tens of millions of songs, many of which have multiple songwriters, this burden creates huge upfront costs and significant liability risk.

The new clearinghouse and blanket license created by the Music Modernization Act would help address these challenges and increase investment in music streaming. In turn, growth in music streaming services will ultimately result in greater opportunities for compensation to the publishers and songwriters who own musical compositions. We look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure that the goals of the legislation will be met through a fair, transparent, and accountable collective.

We look forward to the Senate Judiciary Committee reporting favorably the Music Modernization Act and thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Beckerman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Beckerman
President and CEO
Internet Association

cc:
Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee