

Dear Sir or Madam:

I have recently become aware of the U.S. Copyright Office study to assess the current state of popular demand for federalizing the state copyright laws for music recordings fixed before February 15, 1972. I am strongly in favor of this action and I hope to share my firm opinion with the utmost respect.

I love music, and I have supported it through every technological fad, no matter the cost. Yet It is clear that the music industry has a hard time adapting to the organic-development of technology, and like many consumers I have found myself entangled in the legalities of copyright laws; something which I know little about. Long gone are the days of records, cassettes, or cd's; people crave a system which is capable of utilizing the technologies which are so pervasive today. I sincerely believe that the adoption of pre-1972 content into federal law will allow for greater accessibility and preservation of all music because this adoption will simplify the complicated laws which were created when state boundaries still applied to the distribution of media and now restrict modern-business practice.

Our laws are the result of a slow and methodical process that has been proven over time, but by design this process is was not meant to adapt to the ever-changing and ever-expanding reaches of technology. As a result, we now have many honest businesses that must navigate a daunting legal system which was never intended to regulated business practices that leverage information technologies that have been well-established for decades.

I believe that an open and simple market has always been at the heart of the American dream and its business practices. I am not speaking of the free and frequently illegal sharing of media, but rather a consistent and simplified set of rules adapted for the age in which we live-the Information Age.

This is not a magical solution which will bring the law to the year 2011, but I would respectfully opine that it would be one enormous step towards that goal. I have literally dreamed of the day when my own media will not be subject to fleeting copyright laws, inconvenient terms of use, and limited functionality. The world has been yearning for a better method to disseminate media, as shown by social media, file sharing, bit torrents, p2p networks, and a plethora of other pervasive and frequently illegitimate practices. Regrettably, our current system hinders the legal use of the greatest technologies that have come from the Information Age, and inadvertently these laws make unethical file sharing practices as tempting as they are.

By federalizing these aforementioned laws the economic interests of rights holders will be best served as entrepreneurial start-ups, acting under the clear guidelines of federal law, continue to develop new revenue models that robustly and profitably reward copyright holders for their works in our digital age.

For these reasons I make my appeal to adopt pre-1972 music recording copyright law into federal law. The heart of the American dream lies in fair business practices, open trade with consistent regulations, and a system which lends itself to innovation and creativity.

Sincerely and as always respectfully,  
Nathan Lambson