Dear Sir or Madam:

I recently learned of the U.S. Copyright Office study to assess the desirability of bringing state copyright laws for music recordings fixed before February 15,1972 into federal jurisdiction and respectfully submit this opinion in support of such adoption.

As a music lover and music buyer, I believe the adoption of pre-1972 content into federal law will allow for greater access to and preservation of such works because it will simplify the laws new and innovative content distribution start-ups must navigate in order to succeed. The status quo has resulted in a complex web of state common law that cannot be expected to keep uniformly up to date with the fast pace of technology development. It is important to have a clear set of rules for companies attempting to create new digital content revenue models for digital content as well as push the capabilities of new media and its impact on our culture and economy to follow. The internet has made pushing content across state and country borders easy and routine, and that's a good thing.

Uniformly applying the DMCA instead of state laws will continue to protect the rights of content creators while giving distributors, especially user powered distributors, the breathing room they need to operate in effective ways, furthering exposure and the dissemination of art.

Adopting the complicated state-by-state music copyright laws into federal jurisdiction would not only make it possible for companies to further existing industries, but to create new industries that benefit all of the parties involved.

I submit this opinion recommending the adoption of pre-1972 music recording copyright law into federal law.

Respectfully,
Nathaniel J. Robertson