

To whom it may concern:

Please vote to protect the rights of songwriters against the attempts of corporations to cheat us out of our rightful due. Please resist their attempts to pass legislation favorable to lowering royalty rates, issuance of statutory licenses that lowball writer's payments, and provisions that permit them to use work without obtaining prior permission. To be a bit redundant that's PERMISSION IN ADVANCE, BEFORE using our work, not using the work and then filing a belated request for a license.

It is utterly disgraceful that large broadcast, cable, and telecommunications companies are allowed to build their business and grow fat on the use of our work while we are paid a miniscule pittance, if we are paid at all. And it is a grievous insult that such companies should actually have the gall to seek to lower royalties paid when such royalties are already inadequate. If they want more money let them sell more advertising. We have a right to earn a decent wage.

Thank you,

John Eppstein
songwriter/bandleader