

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 31, 2009

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James Clyburn
Majority Whip
U.S. House of Representatives
H-329 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny H. Hoyer
House Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-107 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John B. Larson
Chairman
House Democratic Caucus
U.S. House of Representatives
202A Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Speaker, Majority Leader, Majority Whip and Chairman:

We, the undersigned members, are writing to express our concern for H.R. 848, the "Performance Rights Act."

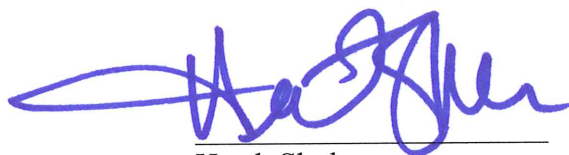
At this time, Congress lacks adequate information on the overall impact that this legislation could have on local radio broadcasters and the potential disadvantages to our local communities that depend on radio to create jobs and bring residents their local news, emergency alert information, weather, and information on the activities of their elected governments.

We are further concerned by the assertions that this bill will unfairly divert money from our local communities and direct those funds primarily to large record labels. Such an act can have a serious economic and social impact on local radio broadcasters across the country.

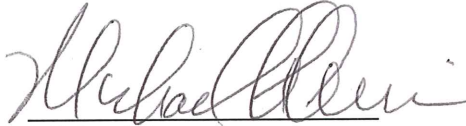
Under the current regime, record labels have grown substantially and radio stations have worked to meet both their public and business obligations. The legislation at issue could alter this successful balance. To ensure that Congress does not act prematurely, we believe that there should be a careful and rigorous examination of the true economic, social and public impact that this legislation will have on our communities and its citizens. Congressional review thus far has been inadequate and we respectfully request your help in ensuring that the United States Congress is fully informed of the consequences of this critical legislation prior to any required vote.

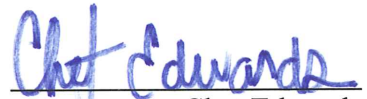
Accordingly, we urge you to refrain from moving H.R. 848 to the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives until such time as the impact of this legislation can be fully examined.

Sincerely,


Heath Shuler


Charlie Wilson


Michael Arcuri


Chet Edwards

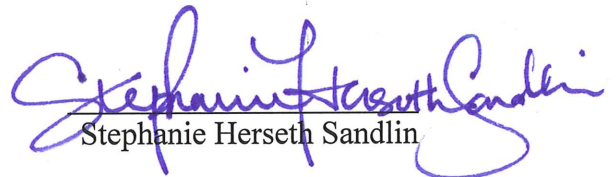

John Barrow

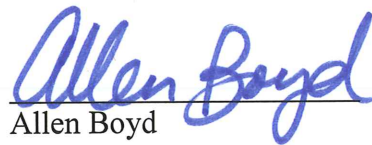

Brad Ellsworth


Marion Berry

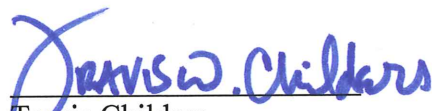

Parker Griffith

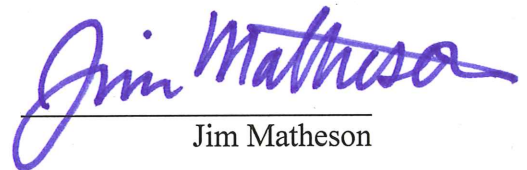

Dan Boren

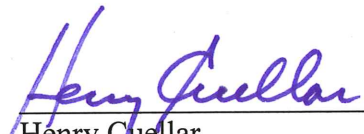

Stephanie Herseth Sandlin


Allen Boyd


Tim Holden


Travis Childers


Jim Matheson

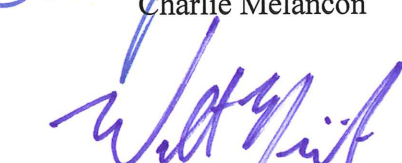

Henry Cuellar

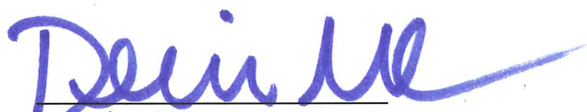

Mike McIntyre



Mike Thompson


Charlie Melancon


Zack Space


Walter Minnick


Dennis Moore


Mike Ross