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**Sent:** Monday, August 5, 2019 6:40 PM  
**To:** ATR-LitIII-Information (ATR) <ATR.LitIII.Information@ATR.USDOJ.gov>  
**Subject:** antitrust Consent Decrees

I understand that public comment is being accepted at this time regarding the US DOJ considering ending the antitrust consent decrees that regulate ASCAP and BMI.

As the CEO and artistic curator or the primary facility in my community that provides performing arts and entertainment in my community, the removal of these consent decrees could put much of the work we do in jeopardy and would give the Performing Rights Organizations too much control in defining which licensing rights are given and which are not.

With the rate increase already proposed plus the expansion to include revenue earned from secondary markets such as sponsorships and advertising, these organizations could easily price us out of the market.

The goal for our organization in our community is to make the arts available to the greatest percentage of our community, and price matters greatly for a rural community like ours with such a large low income population.

Our non-profit arts organization cannot absorb more costs without passing them on through higher ticket prices.

We also are not large enough or significant enough to individually negotiate rates with each of these PRO's on our own. Without these antitrust consent decrees, we would be forced to abide by the arbitrary determinations of these organizations or choose to not participate in the presentation of any artists impacted by licensing rates.

Please do not end the antitrust consent decrees and do not allow the PROs the ability to expand their revenue streams to include other revenue streams that are not ticket revenue specifically.

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