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Sent: Friday, August 9, 2019 6:10 PM
To: ATR-LitIII-Information (ATR) <ATR.LitIII.Information@ATR.USDOJ.gov>
Subject: Ending the Antitrust Consent Decrees for Performing Rights Organizations (PRO) BMI and ASCAP

It has come to my attention that there is consideration of ending AntiTrust Consent Decrees for PMO BMI and ASCAP.

Doing this would allow both organizations to charge whatever fees they wish to performing arts centres. This would be a huge issue for non profit organizations which put on musical events - sometimes to the benefit of other non profit organizations.

Further, the idea of charging non profit organizations fees on revenue from non ticketing sources like sponsors, merchandise, concessions, etc - would put undue hardship on the organizations to track this information and report on it - not the mention the dent in the revenue from concert events.

BMI operates under a consent decree which forces BMI not to collude with ASCAP in order to raise rates nor can they pick and choose who can be a license holder. The elimination of the consent decrees would have far reaching impact.

We need to have the consent decrees in place to protect our musicians, the organizations they play for and the beneficiaries of fund raising events.