



Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

By email: ec.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary

We are writing in response to your call for submissions to your enquiry into the Copyright Legislation Amendment (Fair Go for Fair Use) Bill 2013.

The Australasian Music Publishers Association (AMPAL) is the trade association for music publishers in Australia and New Zealand. AMPAL represents a diverse range of independent and owner-run Australian companies, as well as companies with global operations. AMPAL's members represent the overwhelming majority of economically significant musical works enjoyed by Australians. We are an affiliate of the International Confederation of Music Publishers (ICMP).

Music publishers invest in songwriters across all genres of music. They play a critical role in nurturing and commercially exploiting musical works created by the songwriters they represent.

Music publishers are of course concerned with any moves to weaken copyright protection, which this Bill would do.

AMPAL would be surprised if your Committee were to proceed with consideration of this Bill while the various other Government-initiated inquiries and reports are on-going. In the event that the Committee does proceed with an in-depth examination of the Bill, we would ask for the opportunity to make a detailed submission regarding the potential dangers of the proposed Bill and how it would affect the investment in the production of new Australian music.

In the meantime we will restrict our comments to referring to our various submissions to the Australian Law Reform Commission's Issues Paper and Discussion Paper on their Report on "Copyright and the Digital Economy". These and many other submissions refer in particular to the "Fair Use" provisions in your Bill and can be found on the ALRC website: http://www.alrc.gov.au/sites/default/files/subs/557._org_ampal.pdf ; and http://www.alrc.gov.au/sites/default/files/subs/189._org_ampal.pdf

Yours sincerely

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