



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

By online submission

### **Inquiry into the Copyright Amendment (Service Providers) Bill 2017**

#### **AMPAL**

The Australasian Music Publishers Association Limited (AMPAL) welcomes the opportunity to make this submission to the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee inquiry into the *Copyright Amendment (Service Providers) Bill 2017* (the Bill).

AMPAL is the trade association for Australian and New Zealand music publishers. Our members include large multi-national companies as well as many small businesses. AMPAL's members represent the overwhelming majority of economically significant musical works enjoyed by Australians.

Music publishers invest in songwriters across all genres of music. They play a critical role in nurturing and commercially exploiting their writers' musical works and providing returns to songwriters. AMPAL and our members also recognise the immense cultural and artistic significance of the works that music publishers represent.

AMPAL members are affiliated with Music Rights Australia and we endorse its submission.

AMPAL also refers to its submission to the Department of Communications and the Arts regarding the exposure draft of the *Copyright Amendment (Disability Access and Other Measures Bill) 2016* dated 12 February 2016 (2016 Submission) on Schedule 2 of that Bill.

#### ***Copyright Amendment (Service Providers) Bill 2017***

AMPAL thanks the Government for addressing the significant concerns raised in our submission on the *Copyright Amendment (Disability Access and Other Measures Bill) 2016*, and we support the passage of the Bill as currently drafted.

It is pleasing that the Bill reflects the current international trends with respect to copyright safe harbour law, and is consistent with the basic principles upon which the copyright safe harbour laws were developed. It remains AMPAL's position that any service going beyond the activity of a strictly neutral and passive intermediary should not be eligible for copyright safe harbour protection, as previously set out in our 2016 Submission.

AMPAL also supports the Bill for the reasons outlined in the submission of Music Rights Australia.

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*AMPAL Submission to the Inquiry into the Copyright Amendment (Service Providers) Bill 2017*



AMPAL urges the Committee to recommend the passage of the Bill without amendment, and to also recommend to the Government that this inquiry should conclude the Government's consultation on the safe harbour provisions of the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth).

Please contact me if we can be of any further assistance.

Matthew O'Sullivan

General Manager

30 January 2018