



Latin Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, Inc.

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June 11, 2019

The Hon. Lindsey Graham
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
290 Senate Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Jerry Nadler
Chairman
House Judiciary Committee
2132 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Doug Collins
Ranking Member
House Judiciary Committee
1504 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Graham, Ranking Member Feinstein, Chairman Nadler and Ranking Member Collins:

On behalf of the Latin Recording Academy, a U.S. Corporation, I proudly endorse the CASE Act (S. 1273/H.R. 2426). The Latin Recording Academy is the premier membership-based association composed of musicians, songwriters, producers, engineers and other creative and technical recording professionals who are dedicated to improving the quality of life and the cultural condition for Latin music and its makers both inside and outside the United States.

Our members are perpetual victims of a broken copyright system that enables theft and infringement; the CASE Act represents a critical step forward in improving the copyright system for these creators.

With the current level of explosive growth of Latin music, artists, songwriters and producers that make their living in the field are increasingly vulnerable to copyright infringement. Far too frequently, these creators have no feasible means to fight back. Turning to the federal court system to seek damages is a daunting, expensive and time consuming ordeal—worsened by lack of knowledge of the different genres, names and even language barriers as well as other difficulties faced by the people related to the Hispanic market and community at large.

That is why our members (formed mostly by musicians, performers and songwriters), support the CASE Act, which will increase access to justice for many of our Academy members. The bill significantly reduces the cost of defending one's copyright by avoiding federal filing fees and the

need to hire an attorney, which will also speed up the litigation process. One additional benefit is that the CASE Act also allows creators to file online and participate remotely, which could increase participation for creators who do not speak English as their primary language. For many Latino creators the first barrier to an effective protection of their copyright is understanding their rights.

The CASE Act simplifies this process.

The Latin Recording Academy hopes that your Committees will consider the CASE Act in the coming weeks, and that further action can be taken by the 116th Congress. It is a consensus solution to a very real problem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Abaroa", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gabriel Abaroa
President & CEO
The Latin Recording Academy

cc: Senate Judiciary Committee
House Judiciary Committee
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