DEAR CONGRESS:

THE DIGITAL MILLENNIUM COPYRIGHT ACT IS BROKEN AND NO LONGER WORKS FOR CREATORS.

As songwriters and artists who are a vital contributing force to the U.S. and to American exports around the world, we are writing to express our concern about the ability of the next generation of creators to earn a living. The existing laws threaten the continued viability of songwriters and recording artists to survive from the creation of music. Aspiring creators shouldn't have to decide between making music and making a living. Please protect them.

One of the biggest problems confronting songwriters and recording artists today is the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). This law was written and passed in an era that is technologically out-of-date compared to the era

in which we live. It has allowed major tech companies to grow and generate huge profits by creating ease of use for consumers to carry almost every recorded song in history in their pocket via a smartphone, while songwriters' and artists' earnings continue to diminish. Music consumption has skyrocketed, but the monies earned by individual writers and artists for that consumption has plummeted.

The DMCA simply doesn't work. It's impossible for tens of thousands of individual songwriters and artists to muster the resources necessary to comply with its application. The tech companies who benefit from the DMCA today were not the intended protectorate when it was signed into law nearly two decades ago. We ask you to enact sensible reform that balances the interests of creators with the interests of the companies who exploit music for their financial enrichment. It's only then that consumers will truly benefit.

Bryan Adams Ryan Adams Christina Aquilera **Rhett Akins Lauren Alaina Michael Anthony Roy Avers** The Band Perry **Banks Sara Bareilles Ivan Barias** Beck **George Benson** Aloe Blacc **The Black Keys Black Rebel Motorcycle Club Benny Blanco Leon Bridges Garth Brooks Lindsey Buckingham T Bone Burnett David Byrne Carlene Carter Roseanne Cash The Chainsmokers** Cher **Kenny Chesney** Chicago **Bootsy Collins**

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