

December 6, 2011

Dear Member(s) of Congress:

Thank you for your ongoing support for the businesses in the State of New York who thrive on innovation and creativity and whose economic success are vital to New York's future economy. New York is certainly synonymous with our industries, which sustain and employ countless artists and professionals who produce, market and distribute creative and innovative products throughout the world.

The entertainment community, with its massive global footprint and influence, plays a substantial role in the health of New York's economy. Without question, the enterprise of content creation and production is vital to New York's economy and its future. The state has always provided fertile ground for building and growing legitimate businesses that entertain and inform the public. That is why companies such as ours continue to exist, expand and flourish. It is also home to some of the most talented and best known creative talent in the world, many of whom belong to our Guilds and unions.

In 2009 and 2010, a total of 624 movie and TV projects were filmed in New York, delivering \$7.7 billion in direct wages, and more than \$21 billion in economic activity. New York City's music community historically employs more workers and supports more music production-related businesses than any other city in the country. Moreover, the entertainment and sports programming created and distributed by New York based broadcasters, programmers, filmmakers, film artists, craftspeople, musicians, performers and sports leagues is some of the most popular content on television. In addition, the entertainment industry employs New York creative talent and graphic artists – largely small businesses – to create content used in television, video, films, games, exhibits, performances and packaging of the recordings of music and motion pictures.

New York is also the home state of the magazine industry and headquarters for many of the largest magazine publishers in the world who collectively employ over 115,000 Americans. New York is the book publishing capital of the world: home to over 300 publishers employing 12,000 people whose wages surpass \$1 billion annually, and a broader network of creative, technological and manufacturing companies and individuals whose livelihoods derive from publishing. Whether it's a blockbuster book franchise or one of the most influential international conventions (bringing \$22.6 million in annual revenue), the New York publishing community has global reach.

The cosmetics and personal care industry makes significant economic and social contributions in New York by adding \$16 billion annually to the state economy, paying \$4 billion each year in taxes, and employing over 192,000 New Yorkers.

Undoubtedly, New York-based entertainment companies, worldwide sports organizations and telecasters and personal care product manufacturers are important job-creating, economic engines in this country.

Today, however, our companies face a serious and mounting economic danger – a wave of digital theft that has swept through television, movies, music, publishing and personal care products. Rogue websites – including those that pirate television broadcasts and infringing books and journals – have grown increasingly sophisticated, doing their best to mimic legitimate content delivery sites and deceive consumers into believing they are indeed legitimate. These illegal websites destroy well-paying jobs, undermine the growth and stability of our industries, and result in billions in lost revenue.

That is why we strongly support the PROTECT IP Act (S. 968) as well as the Stop Online Piracy Act (H.R. 3261). These measures provide valuable and necessary tools to help address such illegal websites and prevent digital theft.

Therefore, we urge you to protect the jobs and intellectual property of American citizens by supporting S. 968 and H.R. 3296. These bills are critical to maintaining the state's role as a global producer of some of the world's best-known products and content, and to support businesses that are directly impacted by the threat of rogue websites dedicated to promoting counterfeiting and piracy.

Sincerely,

ABC

AFTRA- American Federation of Television and Radio Artists

AFM-American Federation of Musicians

AAP-Association of American Publishers

ASCAP

BMG Chrysalis

BMI

CBS (including subsidiary Simon & Schuster)

Cengage Learning

DGA- Directors Guild of America

Disney Publishing Worldwide, Inc.

Elsevier

EMI Music Publishing

ESPN

The Estee Lauder Companies

Graphic Artists Guild

Hachette Book Group

HarperCollins Publishers Worldwide, Inc.

Hyperion

IATSE- International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States, its Territories and Canada

International Brotherhood of Teamsters

L'Oreal

Macmillan

Major League Baseball

Marvel Entertainment, LLC

McGraw-Hill Education

MPA - The Association of Magazine Media

National Football League

News Corporation

Pearson Education

Penguin Group (USA), Inc.

The Perseus Books Group

Random House

Revlon

SAG-Screen Actors Guild

Scholastic, Inc.

Sony Music Entertainment

Sony/ATV Music Publishing

Time Warner

United States Tennis Association

Universal Music

Universal Music Publishing Group

Viacom

Warner Music Group

W.W. Norton & Company

Wolters Kluwer Health