



June 27, 2007

The Honorable Nydia Velazquez
Chair of the House Small Business Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
Fax #202-226-0327

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

For the last several weeks NRB, along with a coalition of others, have been meeting with numerous members of the House of Representatives asking for their urgent support on an issue that we feel vital to the future of our Christian broadcasters that stream music on the internet. I am of course referring to the Copyright Royalty Board (CRB) decision made earlier this year that increased rates our Webcasters must pay on a per song, per person basis. In certain instances, the new over inflated rates are more than 150% of what our members have paid in the past. The fact that the fees are retro-active makes this an even greater injustice.

Madam Chairwoman, simply put if these outlandish fees remain intact most of our broadcasters will be forced off the web, some perhaps into great financial turmoil with retro-active payments due. Three of our members have provided letters for the record for your review and the review of the full committee. These letters reveal how the new rates will affect their online streaming. This includes: K-LOVE/AIR1 Radio, KSBJ-FM, and Northwest College Radio.

On behalf of our association of more than 1400 Evangelical broadcasters, the great majority of whom are small non-profits, I would like to thank you for holding this important hearing: *Assessing the Impact of the Copyright Royalty Board Decision to Increase Royalty Rates on Recording Artist and Webcasters*. I would also like to request your help, as July 15 is fast approaching and payments will soon be due. We need a lasting and fair solution for all of our Christian Webcasters streaming music, no matter how large or small.

Sincerely,

Frank Wright, Ph.D.
President/CEO

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