

YOUR STREAM, YOUR VOICE: A QUICK UPDATE ON FAIR PAY

(Please refer to the March Summit Newsletter for the full breakdown on the American Music Fairness Act and the Living Wage for Musicians Act.)

Since that article was published, both bills have seen important developments. Here is the latest:

American Music Fairness Act (AMFA): This bill to close the AM/FM radio loophole has advanced with key hearings. A Senate hearing in December featured Gene Simmons (KISS) testifying in support, and the House held its own hearing in February. The bill has also been re-introduced in the Senate by a bipartisan pair: Alex Padilla (D-CA) and Marsha Blackburn (R-TN).

Living Wage for Musicians Act (LWMA): The bill, which would create a penny-per-stream royalty, was re-introduced by Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI) in September. While it has stalled in Congress, it's gaining significant grassroots momentum—the Detroit and New York City Councils have passed resolutions in support.

SO, WHERE DO WE STAND NOW?

The bad news is the path forward remains difficult. The radio industry is still fighting AMFA, and the major streaming platforms are still resisting the changes in the LWMA. But the bigger challenge is that both bills currently lack the strong, bipartisan support needed to force a vote.

A CALL TO ACTION: CHECKING IN WITH ISSA

Since we last spoke, the election cycle has only intensified. This is the moment when our collective voice is most powerful. So, let's take the temperature of our own community.

What have YOU done to advocate for these bills in the last month?
Have you contacted your representative? Have you organized with your ISSA State Rep? Have you asked the tough questions at a town hall or on social media?

Let's keep this momentum going.
Share your actions, big or small, in the ISSA Summit Facebook page or other social media groups. Use the hashtag #ISSAFairPay. Let's show Washington that this is a voting issue for musicians across the country.