

Class of works proposed for exemption: Musical works broadcast by small/amateur internet broadcasters, such as internet broadcasts of college radio stations

Summary: Royalties established under DCMA stifle independent music market

Argument for exemption: As a self published, distributed, and promoted musician, I can personally attest that such outlets are vital in reaching an audience. The consolidation and dwindling competition of the broadcasting and publishing industries has made it very difficult for small artists to gain exposure. Already, a number of small/amateur broadcast outlets have been forced to close as a result of the royalty rates set recently. Some of our friends in the music industry have thereby lost their only broadcast connection to their audience, and thus have lost the only significant marketing tool available to them. Small broadcast outlets must be permitted to thrive economically for the independent music community to thrive as well.

Sincerely  
Brock Manville