

**From:**

**Subject:**

**Date:**

Intellectual Property Rights

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The Copyright Alliance and A2IM (the U.S. independent music label trade organization) have informed me of this welcome invitation from the Obama Administration to share my thoughts on my rights as a creator. (Which is ironically, why I'm starting a letter to you with a sentence that I did not create.)

My name is Lisa Loeb, I'm a singer songwriter, and I think that we must be protected as creators. It's funny, we keep hearing that creativity, learning about music and how to play a musical instrument, writing, communicating, and independent business and being driven to do things both creatively and business-wise, are important to succeeding in life. We try to add more creativity and learning about the process of creating back into the public school system, yet when some of us become professional creators (musicians, songwriters, etc.), we're not supported in our efforts. In order to make a living as a creator, we must be able to protect the value of our Intellectual Property. With the advent of the internet and sharing Intellectual Property digitally, not only are we losing the value of our work because we aren't getting paid for it, but also in the consciousness of the average person, our work isn't valued- they can get it for free. It's a hard road ahead to protect our rights, ideas, and works, but it's worth it to try to move backwards into fixing the holes in technology that we forgot to look out for in the first place, and deal with it.

Please help us protect our ideas and our music and lyrics. If musicians/songwriters can't make a living, at some point there's a good chance that they'll stop making this music, and then what are folks going to listen to when they're out in their boat waterskiing, or at their daughter's wedding, or driving to work, or playing for their children to try to get them to go to sleep? I know people value the music that we make, but we must be able to make a living making this music.

Thank you for your time,  
Lisa Loeb  
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