

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)
Subject: Intellectual property rights
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My name is Ron McClure. I am a 68 year old jazz bassist/composer, and jazz educator. I have been on the faculty of New York University for 20 years, and have made my living from teaching and performing, as well as from the publishing and writer's shares of my own written music since 1963.

Because of the explosion of technology, it has become easier for individuals to illegally copy the "intellectual property" of artists. YouTube and MySpace, have made it easy for anyone with a computer to view and listen to music without it financially benefiting artists, such as myself. Fewer "Hard Copies" such as Cds or DVDs are being sold because of the availability of free and/or less expensive sources of music and videos, such as iTunes, it has become difficult for us to make a living from our "intellectual properties". I'm aware that there is a movement to pass legislation that would further endanger the rights of artists to be paid for the work we do. An artist spends his or her entire life in preparation to produce world class work, much like other professionals, such as doctors or lawyers. The obvious difference is that most doctors and lawyers get paid significantly better than most artists. My dentist charges me for each and every procedure, including discussing the work he does on my teeth. Why then should my music be free, because technology has made it easy for someone to steal?

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