



June 30, 2025

Dear Senator,

On behalf of the Songwriters of North America (SONA) and the working American songwriters we represent, we are writing to urge you to oppose the federal effort to impose a moratorium on state-level artificial intelligence legislation.

AI is already disrupting the music ecosystem by cloning voices, mimicking songwriting styles, and ingesting copyrighted works without consent or compensation. Songwriters, who are often the most underrepresented and underpaid stakeholders in the music industry, are especially vulnerable. For many of us, state-level legislation has been the only immediate and accessible avenue to fight back against the unauthorized use of our creative work and identities.

SONA believes in strong frameworks to protect against AI misuse at all levels. The current proposals, including the recently proposed compromise regarding this state moratorium, strip away states' freedom to legislate in the AI arena. Any moratorium would weaken existing and future essential protections for creators. Songwriters would therefore lack adequate recourse when their work or likeness is exploited by AI. The provision remains far too tech industry-friendly at the expense of the very creators that fuel the industry.

Until robust, enforceable federal protections are enacted, states must retain the right to act. A moratorium would silence the voices of working songwriters and strip them of urgently needed tools to defend their livelihoods. States that are working to protect their songwriter constituents should not be punished for doing so.

We urge you to stand with the songwriting community and oppose any moratorium that would preempt state AI legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Erin McNally".

Erin McNally - Executive Director of Songwriters of North America