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## **Copyright Alliance CEO Kupferschmid Comments on Today's Announcement by Goodlatte and Conyers on First Policy Proposal for Copyright Office Reform**

The following is a statement from Keith Kupferschmid, CEO of the Copyright Alliance, on the first policy proposal of the copyright review from House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.) and Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr. (D-Mich.).

"The Copyright Alliance commends today's announcement by House Judiciary Chairman Goodlatte and Ranking Member Conyers on their first policy proposal which addresses the very important issue of Copyright Office reform. Copyright legislation can often be divisive, as there are numerous varying views and priorities on copyright policy issues. However, modernizing the Copyright Office is not one of them. Instead, it enjoys significant support amongst a diverse group of stakeholders and users of the Copyright Office, including the Copyright Alliance and its members.

As evidenced by the IIPA report that was published earlier this week, copyright fuels the U.S. economy — it creates jobs and supports small businesses. A strong copyright system is good for America. But we cannot have a strong copyright system without a strong Copyright Office. The proposal recognizes this by proposing that: (i) the Office have autonomy with regard to budget, staffing and technology; (ii) the historical deference to the Register of Copyrights on copyright policy matters continue unabated by proposing that the next Register of Copyrights (and all Registers to follow) be subject to a nomination and consent process; and (iii) the IT modernization plan proposed by the Copyright Office move forward. Significantly, the proposal also urges the adoption of a small claims system. The Copyright Alliance has long been a supporter of a small claims process as generally set forth by the Copyright Office as it will help individual creators who otherwise cannot afford to enforce their rights in Federal court."

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### **About the Copyright Alliance**

The Copyright Alliance is a non-profit, non-partisan public interest and educational organization representing the copyright interests of over 1.8 million individual creators and over 13,000 organizations in the United States, across the spectrum of copyright disciplines. The Copyright Alliance is dedicated to advocating policies

that promote and preserve the value of copyright, and to protecting the rights of creators and innovators. For more information, please visit [www.copyrightalliance.org](http://www.copyrightalliance.org).

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