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Copyright Alliance CEO Urges President Trump to Support U.S. Copyright Protections that Drive the Economy and Jobs

Core copyright industries added \$1.2 trillion to the U.S. GDP and employed nearly 5.5 million men and women in 2015

WASHINGTON – The Copyright Alliance, an organization representing over 1.8 million individual creators and 13,000 organizations, today urged President Trump to stand with American creators and innovators by promoting and preserving the value of copyright in United States and abroad.

“Throughout the long history of our country, few, if any, Presidents have had a more sizable and diverse copyright portfolio than you. Your experiences as a businessman have afforded you insights into the value and importance of copyright and how copyright protections help drive the U.S. economy and create millions of well-paying jobs and small businesses,” said Copyright Alliance CEO Keith Kupferschmid in a letter to the President on behalf of the Copyright Alliance, its members and the copyright community.

Kupferschmid noted that “few laws and few industries do more to support and propel the U.S. economy and to generate a positive trade balance than copyright law and the copyright industries.”

In 2015, the core copyright industries added \$1.2 trillion to the U.S. GDP and employed nearly 5.5 million men and women, with average compensation 38% higher than the average for all U.S. workers. From a global perspective, sales of U.S. recorded music, television, video and motion pictures, software, newspapers, books and periodicals in foreign markets amounted to \$177 billion, which exceeds exports of major U.S. industries such as chemicals; aerospace; agricultural; electrical and pharmaceuticals. The growth within core copyright industries far surpasses the average growth rate for other industries; in fact, between 2012 and 2015, those industries grew at a rate of more than 127% greater than the remainder of the economy.

“These statistics further prove that a strong copyright system that rewards creativity and discourages piracy is essential to a healthy and vibrant economy,” Kupferschmid added.

“The prevalence of piracy in the internet age is a blight on the U.S. economy and culture. Weakening copyright or making it harder for creators and small businesses to obtain or maintain their protections, weakens the value proposition for creators and small businesses and may result in fewer jobs in the copyright industries. We need to enhance the protections afforded to the creative communities, not dilute them.”

The Copyright Alliance [letter](#) joins a growing chorus from the creative community, articulating strong support for copyright, all of which can be found [here](#).

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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.

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