



April 22, 2017

Dear Members of the Congressional Black Caucus:

The Gospel Music Association (GMA) writes to express our support for the Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act, H.R. 1695. GMA represents a diverse community of Gospel and Christian music creators and professionals, as diverse as the Church itself. We celebrate Dr. Hayden for making history as the first African American Librarian of Congress.

The Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act (H.R. 1695) by no means removes power from her historic appointment and in fact, designates the Librarian as a member of the selection panel for the next Register. This legislation simply formalizes a process that should be transparent and ensures a qualified, experienced leader on copyright policy that is vitally important to protecting creators and their works, both sacred and secular.

GMA urges the passage of this bipartisan bill next week. We thank Chairmen Goodlatte and Grassley, Ranking Members Conyers, Feinstein and Leahy, and Congressional co-sponsors for their leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Jackie Patillo
President & Executive Director
Gospel Music Association

About GMA

Founded in 1964, the GMA focuses its efforts on a past, present and future model. Through the GMA Foundation and the GMA Gospel Music Hall of Fame we aim to preserve the legacies (past) of those that have blazed the trail for Gospel music. Through the GMA Dove Awards we seek to support and bring awareness to the best and brightest in the current (present) Christian and Gospel music industry. We focus on the future through our training event, IMMERSE, which seeks to develop up-and-coming artists, songwriters and music business professionals.