



For Immediate Release

## **DiMA: Music Modernization Act Gets Stronger in Senate, Adding Transparency and Oversight to Help Streamers and Creators**

WASHINGTON, DC (June 28, 2018) – Today, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted S. 2823, the Music Modernization Act (MMA), out of committee. A similar version of the bill, H.R. 5447, passed the House of Representatives unanimously in April. The MMA seeks to update the music licensing process with modern technology and greater transparency to speed royalty payments to music publishers and songwriters.

During the mark-up, improvements were made to the bill. In particular, Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Ranking Member Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) proposed a “Manager’s Amendment” that seeks to bring greater transparency and oversight to the operations carried out by the Mechanical Licensing Collective (“MLC”) created by the bill.

**In response, Chris Harrison, CEO of DiMA, the Digital Media Association, which represents a number of music streaming companies, released the following statement:**

“The Music Modernization Act grew stronger in the Senate and remains a bright, bipartisan light for an industry that is ready to stream forward to a better future.

“DiMA applauds the Senate action and thanks Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Feinstein and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee for their work to reform an outdated and inefficient music licensing system that no longer serves fans of music or creators.

“The Manager’s Amendment brings greater transparency and makes it easier for songwriters and copyright owners to verify the accuracy of royalty payments made, while ensuring the efficient and cost-effective operation of the Mechanical Licensing Collective.

“Streaming services have literally saved the music industry, delivering better experiences at a better value, and growing revenue for creators. We are glad to see Congress is looking to the streaming future, and moving away from the music mess of the past.”

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### **About DiMA:**

DiMA, the Digital Media Association, is the voice of the streaming industry. Promoting innovation and investment policy, uniting creators, copyright owners, and consumers with technology services that bring more choice and competition, greater access and lower prices.

DiMA members include: Amazon, Apple, Microsoft, Napster, Pandora, Spotify and YouTube.

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