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## **Over 500 Members of the Creative Industries Tell the 116th Congress: “We Need Strong and Effective Copyright”**

*Creatives from film, television, music, publishing, and photography explain how copyright is important to their careers and to the American economy*

**Los Angeles, CA** – Today, CreativeFuture sent a letter to every member of the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress, signed by over 100,000 Americans and over 500 leaders from the creative communities, asking for their support of a strong copyright system at home and abroad. The signers also asked for renewed oversight of the large internet companies that seek to devalue copyright for their own financial benefit.

The letter stresses that strong and effective copyright is not a partisan issue, but rather something that benefits our entire nation. Not only does copyright boost our economy, contributing more than \$1.3 trillion to America’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP), it also allows millions of Americans to have a career doing what they love.

CreativeFuture CEO Ruth Vitale added, “The people who make up the creative communities would simply not be able to pay their bills or their rent if it were not for copyright. Strong copyright is the only thing standing between them and the breadline. It’s time for Congress to not only recognize the importance of copyright, but to protect the millions of Americans who depend on it to make a living.”

The letter goes on to recognize that although the internet has been a powerful democratizing force for our world and for creative industries, it has also introduced massive new harms to creatives and creativity. Major internet platforms, like Google and Facebook, can and should assume greater responsibility for the illegal content distributed on their networks. Any company or organization that claims to be “against piracy” must match their words with their policies and actions.

### **ABOUT CREATIVEFUTURE**

CreativeFuture is a nonprofit coalition of more than 540 companies and organizations and more than 220,000 individuals – from film, television, music, book publishing,

photography, and other creative industries. We're mobilizing our members to speak up about the value of creativity, the importance of copyright in protecting creativity, and the massive harm caused by the global theft of our creative works. Millions of creatives and thousands of businesses around the world depend on copyright to bring all of us countless moments of inspiration, learning, and joy. Our mission is to advocate for strong but appropriate copyright protections and to empower creatives to speak out against piracy and how it affects their ability to create and to make a living. To learn more, visit [www.creativefuture.org](http://www.creativefuture.org).