

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 24, 2010 4:13 PM  
**To:** FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty  
**Subject:** public comments joint strategic plan

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I realize, upon fuller reading of the strategic plan, that the comments I initially prepared have in them something of the nature of debate. I understand now that the time for that is past; There is a budget, and it needs must be spent.

However, I can't help but feel that this in some part constitutes a government bailout of industries who have confused digital media as some form of right, rather than a technology, when the market forces might be indicating a return to, say, vinyl lps, or beta and vhs. So please allow me to express a certain indignation.

I live in the Detroit area, and the words `economic harm` have a distinct meaning here, that a Hollywood boasting record years and blockbuster movies ( such as Avatar and the Dark Knight) that gross *A billion* dollars would be hard pressed to lay claim to. And I find it somewhat disingenuous that an industry that dumps r-5 dvds, which could n` t be more helpful in abetting piracy, needs the Government to intervene.

The idea that numbers, a string of 1s and 0s generate a *threat to public health and safety* I regard as necessarily alarmist.

In the world of music, as a songwriter I have a certain amount of personal experience. And perhaps some perspective is in order.

Some 30 years ago let the digital genie out of the bottle -embracing cds as an *incentive* ( better sound and durability )to escape the problems of cassette taping of vinyl- problems that were dodged, rather than resolved.

Al and Tipper Gore`s government intervention -the carrot and stick of the PMRC and the `blank tape tax` (HR2911 -described in those days as a private tax levied by an industry on consumers, for the benefit of a select group within that industry`) were an ugly episode.

I see the same issues at heart here, and instead of creating a new incentive, the industry is looking for a government bailout for it`s lack of imagination.

I would hate to see the U.S. government appear to work for the RIAA, or SonyBMG. I think the people of our Nation have had 8 years of seeing the Bush and Cheney putting the needs of, say, Haliburton ahead of theirs. I had thought the election of the current administration a mandate *against* that sort of thing.

On a personal note, I certainly have nothing against the p2p sharing of my music - Rather than an economic harm, it seems to benefit me via an increase in ticket sales. I routinely give up 10% in the accounting department for `Promotion` - I`m not sure that piracy could`t be moved into that column as well.

I thank you for your time in allowing me to express these thoughts, though they may not be precisely germane.

Perhaps the only thing I might say precisely on topic is in the nature of enforcement. As a member of the public, I certainly don`t want to see any more Jammie Thomas cases - I feel that creates incalculable ill will. If there is a pursuit of some vast pirating consortiums making millions that we`ve not been aware of, or a move to bar advertising on sites in any way connected to psp sharing, that seems reasonable. Leave the single mothers alone, and let the entertainment industry clean up it`s own messes.

I thank you for this opportunity,  
-Jon Todt

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