103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2840

To amend title 17, United States Code, to establish copyright arbitration royalty panels to replace the Copyright Royalty Tribunal, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 3, 1993

Mr. HUGHES (for himself and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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A BILL

To amend title 17, United States Code, to establish copyright arbitration royalty panels to replace the Copyright Royalty Tribunal, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Copyright Royalty Tribunal Reform Act of 1993".

SEC. 2. COPYRIGHT ARBITRATION ROYALTY PANELS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—Section 801 of title 17, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) The section heading is amended to read as follows:

"§ 801. Copyright arbitration royalty panels: establishment and purpose";

(2) Subsection (a) is amended to read as follows:

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Librarian of Congress, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, is authorized to appoint and convene copyright arbitration royalty panels.";

(3) Subsection (b) is amended—

(A) by inserting "PURPOSES.—" after "(b)";

(B) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "copyright arbitration royalty panels";

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking "Commission" and inserting "copyright arbitration royalty panels"; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "copyright arbitration royalty panels";

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking "In determining" and all that follows through the end of the paragraph; and

(4) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) RULINGS.—The Librarian of Congress, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, may, before a copyright arbitration royalty panel is convened, make any necessary procedural or evidentiary rulings that would apply to the proceedings conducted by such panel.".

(b) MEMBERSHIP AND PROCEEDINGS.—Section 802 of title 17, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 802. Membership and proceedings of copyright arbitration royalty panels

"(a) COMPOSITION OF COPYRIGHT ARBITRATION ROYALTY PANELS.—A copyright arbitration royalty panel shall consist of 3 arbitrators selected by the Librarian of Congress pursuant to subsection (b).

"(b) SELECTION OF ARBITRATION PANEL.—Not later than 10 days after publication of a notice initiating an arbitration proceeding under section 803 or 804, and in accordance with procedures specified by the Register of Copyrights, the Librarian of Congress shall, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, select 2 ar-

bitrators from lists of arbitrators provided to the Librarian by parties participating in the arbitration. The 2 arbitrators so selected shall, within 10 days after their selection, choose a third arbitrator from the same lists, who shall serve as the chairperson of the arbitrators. If such 2 arbitrators fail to agree upon the selection of a chairperson, the Librarian of Congress shall promptly select the chairperson.

"(c) ARBITRATION PROCEEDINGS.—Copyright arbitration royalty panels shall conduct arbitration proceedings, in accordance with such procedures as they may adopt, for the purpose of making their determinations in carrying out the purposes set forth in section 801. The arbitration panels shall act on the basis of a fully documented written record, prior decisions of the Copyright Royalty Tribunal, prior copyright arbitration panel determinations, and rulings by the Librarian of Congress under section 801(b). Any copyright owner who claims to be entitled to royalties under section 111 or 119 or any interested copyright party who claims to be entitled to royalties under section 1006 may submit relevant information and proposals to the arbitration panels in proceedings applicable to such copyright owner or interested copyright party. The parties to the proceedings shall bear the entire cost

thereof in such manner and proportion as the arbitration panels shall direct.

"(d) REPORT TO THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after publication of the notice initiating an arbitration proceeding, the copyright arbitration royalty panel conducting the proceeding shall report to the Librarian of Congress its determination concerning the royalty fee or distribution of royalty fees, as the case may be. Such report shall be accompanied by the written record, and shall set forth the facts that the arbitration panel found relevant to its determination.

"(e) ACTION BY LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS.—Within 60 days after receiving the report of a copyright arbitration royalty panel under subsection (d), the Librarian of Congress, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, shall adopt or reject the determination of the arbitration panel. The Librarian shall adopt the determination of the arbitration panel unless the Librarian finds that the determination is arbitrary. If the Librarian rejects the determination of the arbitration panel, the Librarian shall, before the end of that 60-day period, and after full examination of the record created in the arbitration proceeding, issue an order setting the royalty fee or distribution of fees, as the case may be. The Librarian shall cause to be published in the Federal Register the

determination of the arbitration panel, and the decision of the Librarian (including an order issued under the preceding sentence). The Librarian shall also publicize such determination and decision in such other manner as the Librarian considers appropriate. The Librarian shall also make the report of the arbitration panel and the accompanying record available for public inspection and copying.

"(f) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Any decision of the Librarian of Congress under subsection (e) with respect to a determination of an arbitration panel may be appealed, by any aggrieved party who would be bound by the determination, to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, within 30 days after the publication of the decision in the Federal Register. The pendency of an appeal under this paragraph shall not relieve persons obligated to make royalty payments under sections 111, 119, or 1003 who would be affected by the determination on appeal to deposit the statement of account and royalty fees specified in those sections. The court shall have jurisdiction to modify or vacate a decision of the Librarian only if it finds, on the basis of the record before the Librarian, that the Librarian acted in an arbitrary manner. If the court modifies the decision of the Librarian, the court shall have jurisdiction to enter its own determination with respect to the amount or distribution of roy-

alty fees and costs, to order the repayment of any excess fees, and to order the payment of any underpaid fees, and the interest pertaining respectively thereto, in accordance with its final judgment. The court may further vacate the decision of the arbitration panel and remand the case for arbitration proceedings in accordance with subsection (c).".

(c) ADJUSTMENT OF COMPULSORY LICENSE RATES.—Section 803 of title 17, United States Code, and the item relating to such section in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 8 of such title, are repealed.

(d) INSTITUTION AND CONCLUSION OF PROCEEDINGS.—Section 804 of title 17, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) Subsection (a) is amended—

(A) by repealing paragraph (1); and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking "Tribunal," and all that follows through "proceedings under this chapter." and inserting "Copyright Royalty Tribunal before the date of the enactment of the Copyright Royalty Tribunal Reform Act of 1993, or by a copyright arbitration royalty panel after such date of

enactment, may file a petition with the Librarian of Congress declaring that the petitioner requests an adjustment of the rate. The Librarian of Congress shall, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, make a determination as to whether the petitioner has such a significant interest in the royalty rate in which an adjustment is requested. If the Librarian determines that the petitioner has such a significant interest, the Librarian shall cause notice of this determination, with the reasons therefor, to be published in the Federal Register, together with the notice of commencement of proceedings under this chapter.";

(ii) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) in clause (i) by striking "in 1990 and in each subsequent tenth calendar year, and", and by striking "116A" and inserting "116"; and

(II) by amending clause (ii) to read as follows:

"(ii) If a negotiated license authorized by section 116 is terminated or expires and is not

replaced by another license agreement under such section, providing permission to use a quantity of musical works not substantially smaller than the quantity of such works performed on coin-operated phonorecord players during the 1-year period ending March 1, 1989, the Librarian of Congress shall, upon petition filed under subsection (a) within 1 year after such termination or expiration, convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel. The arbitration panel shall promptly establish an interim royalty rate or rates for the public performance by means of a coin-operated phonorecord player of nondramatic musical works embodied in phonorecords which had been subject to the terminated or expired negotiated license agreement. Such rate or rates shall be the same as the last such rate or rates and shall remain in force until the conclusion of proceedings by the arbitration panel, in accordance with section 802, to adjust the royalty rates applicable to such works, or until superseded by a new negotiated license agreement, as provided in section 116(c).".

(2) Subsection (b) is amended—

(A) by striking "Tribunal" the first place it appears and inserting "Copyright Royalty Tribunal or the Librarian of Congress";

(B) by striking "Tribunal" the second and third places it appears and inserting "Librarian"; and

(C) by striking "Tribunal" the last place it appears and inserting "Copyright Royalty Tribunal or the Librarian of Congress".

(3) Subsection (c) is amended by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

(4) Subsection (d) is amended—

(A) by striking "Chairman of the Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(B) by striking "determination by the Tribunal" and inserting "a determination".

(5) Subsection (e) is amended by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

(e) REPEAL.—Sections 805 through 810 of title 17, United States Code, and the items relating to such sections in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 8 of such title, are repealed.

(f) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 8 of title 17, United States Code,

is amended by striking the items relating to sections 801 and 802 and inserting the following:

"Sec. 801. Copyright arbitration royalty panels: establishment and purpose.
"Sec. 802. Membership and proceedings of copyright arbitration royalty panels.".

SEC. 3. JUKEBOX LICENSES.

(a) REPEAL OF COMPULSORY LICENSE.—Section 116 of title 17, United States Code, and the item relating to section 116 in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 1 of such title, are repealed.

(b) NEGOTIATED LICENSES.—(1) Section 116A of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by redesignating such section as section 116;

(B) by striking subsection (b) and redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively;

(C) in subsection (b)(2) (as so redesignated) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(D) in subsection (c) (as so redesignated)—

(i) in the subsection caption by striking "ROYALTY TRIBUNAL" and inserting "ARBITRATION ROYALTY PANEL"; and

(ii) by striking "the Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "a copyright arbitration royalty panel"; and

(E) by striking subsections (e), (f), and (g).

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 1 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by striking "116A" and inserting "116".

SEC. 4. PUBLIC BROADCASTING COMPULSORY LICENSE.

Section 118 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking the first 2 sentences;

(B) in the third sentence by striking "works specified by this subsection" and inserting "published nondramatic musical works and published pictorial, graphic, and sculptural works";

(C) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the first sentence by striking ", within one hundred and twenty days after publication of the notice specified in this subsection,"; and

(ii) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(D) in paragraph (2) by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(E) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking the first sentence and inserting the following: "In the absence of license agreements negotiated under paragraph (2), the Librarian of Congress shall, pursuant to section 803, convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel to determine and publish in the Federal Register a schedule of rates and terms which, subject to paragraph (2), shall be binding on all owners of copyright in works specified by this subsection and public broadcasting entities, regardless of whether such copyright owners have submitted proposals to the Librarian of Congress.";

(ii) in the second sentence—

(I) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "copyright arbitration royalty panel"; and

(II) by striking "clause (2) of this subsection" and inserting "paragraph (2)"; and

(iii) in the last sentence by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(F) by striking paragraph (4);

(2) by striking subsection (c); and

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) by redesignating such subsection as subsection (c);

(B) by striking "to the transitional provisions of subsection (b)(4), and"; and

(C) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "copyright arbitration royalty panel".

SEC. 5. SECONDARY TRANSMISSIONS BY SUPERSTATIONS AND NETWORK STATIONS FOR PRIVATE VIEWING.

Section 119 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking ", after consultation with the Copyright Royalty Tribunal," each place it appears;

(B) in paragraph (2) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(C) in paragraph (3) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(D) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(ii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(iii) in subparagraph (C) by striking "conduct a proceeding" in the last sentence and inserting "convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel"; and

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

"(c) DETERMINATION OF ROYALTIES.—The royalty fee payable under subsection (b)(1)(B) shall be that established by the Copyright Royalty Tribunal on May 1, 1992, as corrected on May 18, 1992.".

SEC. 6. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) CABLE COMPULSORY LICENSE.—Section 111(d) of title 17, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) Paragraph (1) is amended by striking ", after consultation with the Copyright Royalty Tribunal (if and when the Tribunal has been constituted),".

(2) Paragraph (1)(A) is amended by striking ", after consultation with the Copyright Royalty Tri-

bunal (if and when the Tribunal has been constituted),".

(3) Paragraph (2) is amended by striking the second and third sentences and by inserting the following: "All funds held by the Secretary of the Treasury shall be invested in interest-bearing United States securities for later distribution by the Librarian of Congress in the event no controversy over distribution exists, or by a copyright arbitration royalty panel in the event a controversy over such distribution exists. The Librarian shall compile and publish on a semiannual basis, a compilation of all statements of account covering the relevant 6-month period provided by paragraph (1) of this subsection.".

(4) Paragraph (4)(A) is amended—

(A) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(B) by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

(5) Paragraph (4)(B) is amended to read as follows:

"(B) After the first day of August of each year, the Librarian of Congress shall, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights,

determine whether there exists a controversy concerning the distribution of royalty fees. If the Librarian determines that no such controversy exists, the Librarian shall, after deducting reasonable administrative costs under this section, distribute such fees to the copyright owners entitled, or to their designated agents. If the Librarian finds the existence of a controversy, the Librarian shall, pursuant to chapter 8 of this title, convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel to determine the distribution of royalty fees.".

(6) Paragraph (4)(C) is amended by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

(b) AUDIO HOME RECORDING ACT.—

(1) ROYALTY PAYMENTS.—Section 1004(a)(3) of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(B) by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

(2) DEPOSIT OF ROYALTY PAYMENTS.—Section 1005 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by striking the last sentence.

(3) ENTITLEMENT TO ROYALTY PAYMENTS.—Section 1006(c) of title 17, United States Code, is amended by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress shall convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel which".

(4) PROCEDURES FOR DISTRIBUTING ROYALTY PAYMENTS.—Section 1007 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(1) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(ii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(C) in subsection (c)—

(i) by striking the first sentence and inserting "If the Librarian of Congress finds the existence of a controversy, the Li-

brarian shall, pursuant to chapter 8 of this title, convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel to determine the distribution of royalty payments."; and

(ii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

(5) ARBITRATION OF CERTAIN DISPUTES.—Section 1010 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (b)—

(i) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(ii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(B) in subsection (e) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(C) in subsection (f)—

(i) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(ii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(iii) in the third sentence by striking "its" and inserting "the Librarian's"; and

(D) in subsection (g)—

(i) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(ii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERMINATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on January 1, 1994.

(b) EFFECTIVENESS OF EXISTING RATES AND DISTRIBUTIONS.—All royalty rates and all determinations with respect to the proportionate division of compulsory license fees among copyright claimants, whether made by the Copyright Royalty Tribunal, or by voluntary agreement, before the effective date set forth in subsection (a) shall remain in effect until modified by voluntary agreement or pursuant to the amendments made by this Act.

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