



IFTA Statement on Senators Tillis and Leahy's 'SMART Copyright Act of 2022' Legislation

March 18, 2022

The Independent Film & Television Alliance (IFTA) joins colleagues at Creative Future, the Motion Picture Association, and the Copyright Alliance to applaud Senators Thom Tillis (R, NC) and Patrick Leahy (D, VT) for their leadership in protecting America's creative industries, as shown again today with the introduction of the 'SMART Copyright Act of 2022' Bill.

IFTA President & CEO Jean Prewitt said, "Digital piracy continues to cause devastating harm to those who work in the creative industries at large in the U.S and around the world. Since the Digital Millennium Copyright Act was enacted 25 years ago, technology advances have made piracy easier – but technology also increasingly provides new and more targeted ways to fight that piracy. The SMART Copyright Act will expand the incentives for stakeholders to work together to harness those technologies. We commend Senators Tillis and Leahy for identifying the potential for new voluntary solutions and for proposing a framework for decision-making that is transparent, open, and respectful of stakeholders' different concerns. IFTA looks forward to working together to achieve better protection for U.S. creators, their works, and the jobs that depend on our industry."

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About the Independent Film & Television Alliance

IFTA is the global trade association for independent film and television production, finance, distribution, and sales companies. The organization represents the independent sector before governments and international bodies and provides significant entertainment industry services to its member companies in 22 countries consisting of independent production and distribution companies, sales agents, and financial institutions engaged in production finance.

Each November, it produces the annual [American Film Market](#)®, the world's largest motion picture event, drawing more than 7,000 industry leaders from 70 countries and leading to more than \$1 Billion in distribution and film financing deals.

IFTA also develops and publishes the IFTA® Model Agreements which articulate the industry-wide standards and key definitions for licensing international rights in motion pictures and television programming and are reviewed and revised regularly to keep pace with the evolving worldwide film and television industry. For more information on IFTA, visit www.IFTA-online.org.