

To whom it may concern, I am an independent musician and recordingartist. I am the founder and lead-singer of my own music group, an eclectic ethnic rock group.

I am an unsigned musician who has recorded one album, and am in the midst of recording my second. My group tours nationally, playing to small theaters and music festivals. We are in the genre of "World" music and have very strong followings in certain pockets around the country.

My music has played on public radio stations such as NPR. I am in a niche market (world music), so many local radio stations are not willing to take the risk to play world music. It is very frustrating.

I do NOT believe that the the FCC should define local programming!!! It is a travesty, as an increased number of independent musicians will likely be stifled.

Stations SHOULD play the music of local artists-- not enough are willing (or able) to do so right now, and many independent artists are being shut out. Localism is seriously suffering, and commercialism (vis a vis payola and voice-tracking) are becoming the norm.

Thank you for addressing this issue with a public proceeding- I hope that you will seriously re-evaluate how local stations should reflect the local population.