

The proposed payment of performance fees will hasten the decline of radio that is happening all around us. With fees rising I fear only the mega corporations with hundreds of stations will be the only ones to survive. Leaving an important voice and limiting choice to the populations the stations serve. This is a sad thing. Artists are already getting income from sales and concerts. The radio stations that play the songs give them free advertising and exposure that increases those sales of tickets, legal downloads, and cd's and makes them more valuable. If the stations close down even more people will be out of work, leading to loss of income to a chain of people including the artists in question from lack of sales. If some performance fee is put in place, a similar advertising fee should be charged to the artist/recording company each time the music is played as the radio stations should be compensated for the increase in value that happens with the exposure they provide. Advertising and promotion should not be free if stations are charged for playing any media.