



April 14, 2021

Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Letter of Support - AB1385

Dear Assemblywoman Gonzalez,

Songwriters of North America (SONA) is proud to support AB1385 and is grateful for your authorship of this bill.

SONA is committed to the fair treatment and equal protection of all creators from potential exploitation.

AB1385 corrects a long overdue imbalance between the entertainment industry and all other industries. AB1385 will correctly place limits on record labels as well as production studios, so they will no longer have the ability to lock artists into patently unfair agreements, that in far too many cases leave the artists unable to earn a living.

Recording artists have historically been literally stuck in their recording contracts for well over 7 years when all other artists, under California law, are able to legally end their contracts at the end of 7 years. We look forward to AB1385 restoring the original intent of the Seven Year Statute of equal protection for all California creators by removing the 1987 record contract exemption.

We thank you again for bringing these problems to the forefront, and offering a solid solution to give California's artists a fair and equal playing field with all other employment contracts in the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Lewis".

Michelle Lewis
Executive Director, SONA