



April 14, 2016 Statement from James Donio, President of the Music Business Association (Music Biz), on the pending discriminatory Tennessee legislation and the upcoming Music Biz 2016 event in Nashville:

“When we decided to bring Music Biz back to Nashville in 2016, the troubling bills now before the governor were not in discussion. If these bills become law in Tennessee, they will allow discrimination against people for what they believe, how they live, or who they are -- and especially penalize transgender youth at a time when they should be getting support. We urge Governor Haslam to use his veto power to put a stop to this harmful legislation.

“We strongly support the city of Nashville that has been so welcoming to Music Biz, and applaud Mayor Barry’s fierce opposition to this legislation.

“We will proceed with our May 16-18 convention at the Renaissance Hotel. In fact, our event provides a perfect forum to highlight that music serves as a unifying force around the world. It brings people together regardless of who they are. We will use our convention as an opportunity to discuss the need to celebrate diversity -- rather than advancing or sanctioning discrimination -- and how our business can be a positive force for fostering acceptance and understanding.

“Music Biz’s goal is to hold its convention in a place that embraces diversity in its fullest form, and we want to see Tennessee be true to that ideal.”

About the Music Business Association

The Music Business Association (Music Biz) is a membership organization that advances and promotes music commerce — a community committed to the full spectrum of monetization models in the industry. It provides common ground by offering thought leadership, resources and unparalleled networking opportunities, all geared to the specific needs of its membership. Music Biz brings a unique perspective and valuable insight into the trends and changes that

innovation brings. Today, we put our collective experience to work across all delivery models: physical, digital, mobile, and more. Music Biz and its members are committed to building the future of music commerce — together.

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