

Reform the PERFORM Act

DJ What the Bleep of Bowling Green

[This is a transcript from a recent edition of The Frequency Mutineers, show date indicated in brackets.]

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Earlier this year, Senators Feinstein and Graham introduced bill S. 2644, also known as the PERFORM Act. The bill as a whole is generally aimed at punishing satellite radio for offering its subscribers devices capable of recording. However, hidden within the bill, there are two clauses that hinder the freedom of Internet radio. The first prevents ANY listener from recording ANY Internet radio broadcast, be it a transmission across the household or across the world. The second requirement is for all Internet radio stations that broadcast DRM content, or music from major labels, to sacrifice widely used formats such as mp3 in exchange for a government-regulated proprietary format. The Electronic Frontier Foundation is helping to protect the rights of Internet radio broadcasters and listeners by standing up against the PERFORM Act, and you can help by visiting action.eff.org and clicking on "Don't Let Congress Shackle Digital Music."