I have enjoyed a career as a professional musician for close to 40 years. I consider myself privileged to have grown up listening to commercial radio in an era of amazing diversity of sounds and styles. In my experience it was not uncommon to hear Sinatra, The Beatles, Ray Charles, the Supremes and other Motown artists, Roger Miller and Wes Montgomery or Cannonball Adderley programmed back to back in the space of an hour.

Over the years I have listened with increasing dismay as commercial radio has transformed itself into the homogenized wasteland of conformity it has become. American Popular Music, however one wishes to define it, is arguably the one uniquely American art form we have contributed to the world and is clearly recognized as so internationally.

In recognition of this, and in order to nurture and promote this precious artistic resource in a time of increased corporate consolidation, I feel it is imperative to require commercial stations to be clear to their audiences what they are providing them.

The issue is doubly important in this era as more and more independent artists have taken up the mantle of furthering the art form with limited support and exposure in competition for the ears of a public which deserves more than it is currently receiving.