



Guidelines

Providing a testimonial

If you would like to help ALCS lobby this issue by providing a testimonial, please use the following bullet points as a guideline.

- An outline of who you are, what you write and for which audience.
- As much information as you care to give about how you make your living as a writer.
- Financially how this proposed move will affect you.
- How this will affect your future ability to create works and what you think the impact on educational establishments will be.
- In principle, your opinion of your works being used 'for free' in educational establishments.

Please email your testimonial to Alison.baxter@alcs.co.uk by 3rd February where possible. Or post it for the attention of Alison Baxter to:

The Writers' House
13 Haydon Street
London
EC3N 1DB

The intention is that we will use the testimonies when representatives from ALCS meet with Ministers, MPs and Lords over the next couple of months.

Lobbying your MP

In addition, if you would also be interested in contacting your local MP on this matter we would urge you to do so to show them that their constituents are concerned regarding this issue. The bullet points that we would recommend you include are:

- The Government has put forward a number of proposals in relation to Educational Copyright Exceptions. These include the proposal for the expansion of free-use of copyrighted works in educational establishments.
- There are currently licensing schemes, operated by the Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) (for books/ journals) and ERA (for audiovisual works) in place to enable access to many thousands of works.
- We understand the cost of the CLA educational licence is in the region of 0.04% of a university budget and 0.03% of a school budget.
- The current cost of the ERA educational licence works out as 32p per pupil per year.
- This is potentially bad news for the educational establishments who will no longer operate their copying activities with the indemnity that the licence gives them.
- I am a writer and receive money from this licensing scheme; this helps me to continue creating.

If you're unsure, details of who your local MP is can be found at www.theyworkforyou.com. Most of them can be contacted easily by email. You can also cc your letter to Baroness Wilcox at the House of Commons, or email it to her at wilcoxj@parliament.uk