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The Music Library Association (MLA) respectfully submits the following comment in response to the call for comments, "Section 1201 Exemptions to Prohibition Against Circumvention of Technological Measures Protecting Copyrighted Works," (<http://copyright.gov/1201/>). The MLA is the professional association for music libraries and librarianship in the United States. Founded in 1931, MLA has an international membership of over 800 librarians, musicians, scholars, educators, and members of the book and music trades. Complementing the Association's national and international activities are eleven regional chapters that carry out its programs on the local level. The Music Library Association provides a professional forum for librarians, archivists, and others who support and preserve the world's musical heritage.

This comment addresses the ninth proposed class of exemptions out of 27 created by the Copyright Office in December 2014:

9. Literary works distributed electronically – assistive technologies

This proposed class would allow circumvention of access controls on lawfully made and acquired literary works distributed electronically for purposes of accessibility for persons who are print disabled. This exemption has been requested for literary works distributed electronically, including e-books, digital textbooks, and PDF articles.

Music librarians cannot make certain e-books, digital textbooks and PDF articles accessible to their print-disabled patrons without circumvention of access controls when necessary for literary works. These access controls can prevent the use of screen readers for the print-disabled, and if no other format is available, can effectively block access to digital print content.