CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

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HOUSE

Bill	Date	Page(s)
H.R. 2840	Nov. 22, 1993	H10969-73

Action:

Copyright Royalty Tribunal: House agreed to the Senate amendments to H.R. 2840, to amend title 17, United States Code, to establish copyright arbitration royalty panels to replace the Copyright Royalty Tribunal—clearing the measure for the President.

Pages H10969–73

COPYRIGHT ROYALTY TRIBUNAL REFORM ACT OF 1993

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2840) to amend title 17, United States Code, to establish copyright arbitration royalty panels to replace the Copyright Royalty Tribunal, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto and concur in the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment, as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Copyright Royalty Tribunal Reform Act of 1993".

SEC. 2. COPYRIGHT ARBITRATION ROYALTY PANELS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—Section 801 of title 17, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) The section designation and heading are amended to read as follows:

"§ 801. Copyright arbitration royalty panels: Establishment and purpose"

(2) Subsection (a) is amended to read as follows:

"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Librarian of Congress, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, is authorized to appoint and convene copyright arbitration royalty panels.".

(3) Subsection (b) is amended—

(A) by inserting "PURPOSES.—" after "(b)";

(B) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "copyright arbitration royalty panels";

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking "Commission" and inserting "copyright arbitration royalty panels";

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "copyright arbitration royalty panels"; and

(iii) in subparagraph (D) by adding "and" after the semicolon;

(D) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking "and 119(b)," and inserting "119(b), and 1003,"; and

(ii) by striking the sentence beginning with "In determining" through "this title"; and

(E) by striking paragraph (4);

(4) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) RULINGS.—The Librarian of Congress, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, may, before a copyright arbitration royalty panel is convened, make any necessary procedural or evidentiary rulings that would apply to the proceedings conducted by such panel."; and

(5) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OF COPYRIGHT ARBITRATION ROYALTY PANELS.—The Library of Congress, upon recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, shall provide the copyright arbitration royalty panels with the necessary administrative services related to proceedings under this chapter.".

(b) MEMBERSHIP AND PROCEEDINGS.—Section 802 of title 17, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 802. Membership and proceedings of copyright arbitration royalty panels

"(a) COMPOSITION OF COPYRIGHT ARBITRATION ROYALTY PANELS.—A copyright arbitration royalty panel shall consist of 3 arbitrators selected by the Librarian of Congress pursuant to subsection (b).

"(b) SELECTION OF ARBITRATION PANEL.—Not later than 10 days after publication of a notice in the Federal Register initiating an arbitration proceeding under section 803, and in accordance with procedures specified by the Register of Copyrights, the Librarian of Congress shall, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, select 2 arbitrators from lists provided by professional arbitration associations. Qualifications of the arbitrators shall include experience in conducting arbitration proceedings and facilitating the resolution and settlement of disputes, and any qualifications which the Librarian of Congress, upon recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, shall adopt by regulation. The 2 arbitrators so selected shall, within 10 days after their selection, choose a third arbitrator from the same lists, who shall serve as the chairperson of the arbitrators. If such 2 arbitrators fail to agree upon the selection of a third arbitrator, the Librarian of Congress shall promptly select the third arbitrator. The Librarian of Congress, upon recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, shall adopt regulations regarding standards of conduct which shall govern arbitrators and the proceedings under this chapter.

"(c) ARBITRATION PROCEEDINGS.—Copyright arbitration royalty panels shall conduct arbitration proceedings, subject to subchapter II of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, for the purpose of making their determinations in carrying out the purposes set forth in section 801. The arbitration panels shall act on the basis of a fully documented written record, prior decisions of the Copyright Royalty Tribunal, prior copyright arbitration panel determinations, and rulings by the Librarian of Congress under section 801(c). Any copyright owner who claims to be entitled to royalties under section 111, 116, or 119, or any interested copyright party who claims to be entitled to royalties under section 1006, may submit relevant information and proposals to the arbitration panels in proceedings applicable to such copyright owner or interested copyright party, and any other person participating in arbitration proceedings may submit such relevant information and proposals to the arbitration panel conducting the proceedings. In ratemaking proceedings, the parties to the proceedings shall bear the entire cost thereof in

such manner and proportion as the arbitration panels shall direct. In distribution proceedings, the parties shall bear the cost in direct proportion to their share of the distribution.

"(d) PROCEDURES.—Effective on the date of the enactment of the Copyright Royalty Tribunal Reform Act of 1993, the Librarian of Congress shall adopt the rules and regulations set forth in chapter 3 of title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations to govern proceedings under this chapter. Such rules and regulations shall remain in effect unless and until the Librarian, upon recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, adopts supplemental or superseding regulations under subchapter II of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code.

"(e) REPORT TO THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after publication of the notice in the Federal Register initiating an arbitration proceeding, the copyright arbitration royalty panel conducting the proceeding shall report to the Librarian of Congress its determination concerning the royalty fee or distribution of royalty fees, as the case may be. Such report shall be accompanied by the written record, and shall set forth the facts that the arbitration panel found relevant to its determination.

"(f) ACTION BY LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS.—Within 60 days after receiving the report of a copyright arbitration royalty panel under subsection (e), the Librarian of Congress, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, shall adopt or reject the determination of the arbitration panel. The Librarian shall adopt the determination of the arbitration panel unless the Librarian finds that the determination is arbitrary or contrary to the applicable provisions of this title. If the Librarian rejects the determination of the arbitration panel, the Librarian shall, before the end of that 60-day period, and after full examination of the record created in the arbitration proceeding, issue an order setting the royalty fee or distribution of fees, as the case may be. The Librarian shall cause to be published in the Federal Register the determination of the arbitration panel, and the decision of the Librarian (including an order issued under the preceding sentence). The Librarian shall also publicize such determination and decision in such other manner as the Librarian considers appropriate. The Librarian shall also make the report of the arbitration panel and the accompanying record available for public inspection and copying.

"(g) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Any decision of the Librarian of Congress under subsection (f) with respect to a determination of an arbitration panel may be appealed, by any aggrieved party who would be bound by the determination, to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, within 30 days after the publication of the decision in the Federal Register. If no appeal is brought within such 30-day period, the decision of the Librarian is final, and the royalty fee or determination with respect to the distribution of fees, as the case may be, shall take effect as set forth in the decision. The pendency of an appeal under this paragraph shall not relieve persons obligated to make royalty payments under sections 111, 115, 116, 118, 119, or 1003 who would be affected by the determination on appeal to deposit the statement of account and royalty fees specified in those sections. The court shall have jurisdiction to modify or vacate a decision of the Librarian only if it finds, on the basis of the record before the Librarian, that the Librarian acted in an arbitrary manner. If the court modifies the decision of the Librarian, the court shall have jurisdiction to enter its own determination with respect to the amount or distribution of royalty fees and costs, to order the repayment of any excess fees, and to order the payment of any underpaid fees, and the interest pertaining respectively thereto, in accordance with its final judgment. The court may further vacate the decision of the arbitration panel and remand the case to the Librarian for arbitration proceedings in accordance with subsection (c).

"(h) ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.—

"(1) DEDUCTION OF COSTS FROM ROYALTY FEES.—The Librarian of Congress and the Register of Copyrights may, to the extent not otherwise provided under this title, deduct from royalty fees deposited or collected under this title the reasonable costs incurred by the Library of Congress and the Copyright Office under this chapter. Such deduction may be made before the fees are distributed to any copyright claimants. If no royalty pool exists from which their costs can be deducted, the Librarian of Congress and the Copyright Office may assess their reasonable costs directly to the parties to the most recent relevant arbitration proceeding.

"(2) POSITIONS REQUIRED FOR ADMINISTRATION OF COMPULSORY LICENSING.—Section 307 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1994, shall not apply to employee positions in the Library of Congress that are required to be filled in order to carry out section 111, 115, 116, 118, or 119 or chapter 10.".

(c) PROCEDURES OF THE TRIBUNAL.—Section 803 of title 17, United States Code, and the item relating to such section in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 8 of such title, are repealed.

(d) INSTITUTION AND CONCLUSION OF PROCEEDINGS.—Section 804 of title 17, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) The section heading is amended to read as follows:

"§ 803. Institution and conclusion of proceedings".

(2) Subsection (a) is amended to read as follows:

"(a)(1) With respect to proceedings under section 801(b)(1) concerning the adjustment of royalty rates as provided in sections 115 and 116, and with respect to proceedings under subparagraphs (A) and (D) of section 801(b)(2), during the calendar years specified in the schedule set forth in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), any owner or user of a copyrighted work whose royalty rates are specified by this title, established by the Copyright Royalty Tribunal before the date of the enactment of the Copyright Royalty Tribunal Reform Act of 1993, or established by a copyright arbitration royalty panel after such date of enactment, may file a petition with the Librarian of Congress declaring that the petitioner requests an adjustment of the rate. The Librarian of Congress shall, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, make a determination as to whether the petitioner has such a significant interest in the royalty rate in which an adjustment is requested. If the Librarian determines that the petitioner has such a significant interest, the Librarian shall cause notice of this determination, with the reasons therefor, to be published in the Federal Register, together with the notice of commencement of proceedings under this chapter.

"(2) In proceedings under section 801(b)(2)(A) and (D), a petition described in paragraph (1) may be filed during 1995 and in each subsequent fifth calendar year.

"(3) In proceedings under section 801(b)(1) concerning the adjustment of royalty rates as provided in section 115, a petition described in paragraph (1) may be filed in 1997 and in each subsequent tenth calendar year.

"(4)(A) In proceedings under section 801(b)(1) concerning the adjustment of royalty rates as provided in section 116, a petition described in paragraph (1) may be filed at any time within 1 year after negotiated licenses authorized by section 116 are terminated or expire and are not replaced by subsequent agreements.

"(B) If a negotiated license authorized by section 116 is terminated or expires and is not replaced by another such license agreement which provides permission to use a quantity of musical works not substantially smaller than the quantity of such works performed on coin-operated phono-record players during the 1-year period ending March 1, 1989, the Librarian of Congress shall, upon petition filed under paragraph (1) within 1 year after such termination or expiration, convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel. The arbitration panel shall promptly establish an interim royalty rate or rates for the public performance by means of a coin-operated phonorecord player of non-dramatic musical works embodied in phonorecords which had been subject to the terminated or expired negotiated license agreement. Such rate or rates shall be the same as the last such rate or rates and shall remain in force until the conclusion of proceedings by the arbitration panel, in accordance with section 802, to adjust the royalty rates applicable to such works, or until superseded by a new negotiated license agreement, as provided in section 116(b).".

(3) Subsection (b) is amended—

(A) by striking "subclause" and inserting "subparagraph";

(B) by striking "Tribunal" the first place it appears and inserting "Copyright Royalty Tribunal or the Librarian of Congress";

(C) by striking "Tribunal" the second and third places it appears and inserting "Librarian";

(D) by striking "Tribunal" the last place it appears and inserting "Copyright Royalty Tribunal or the Librarian of Congress"; and

(E) by striking "(a)(2), above" and inserting "subsection (a) of this section".

(4) Subsection (c) is amended by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

(5) Subsection (d) is amended—

(A) by striking "Chairman of the Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(B) by striking "determination by the Tribunal" and inserting "a determination".

(6) Subsection (e) is stricken out.

(e) REPEAL.—Sections 805 through 810 of title 17, United States Code, are repealed.

(f) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 8 of title 17, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"CHAPTER 8—COPYRIGHT ROYALTY TRIBUNAL

"Sec.
"801. Copyright arbitration royalty panels: establishment and purpose.
"802. Membership and proceedings of copyright arbitration royalty panels.
"803. Institution and conclusion of proceedings.".

SEC. 3. JUKEBOX LICENSES.

(a) REPEAL OF COMPULSORY LICENSE.—Section 116 of title 17, United States Code, and the item relating to section 116 in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 1 of such title, are repealed.

(b) NEGOTIATED LICENSES.—Section 116A of title 17 United States Code, is amended—

(A) by redesignating such section as section 116;

(B) by striking subsection (b) and redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively;

(C) in subsection (b)(2) (as so redesignated) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(D) in subsection (c) (as so redesignated)—

(i) in the subsection caption by striking "ROYALTY TRIBUNAL" and inserting "ARBITRATION ROYALTY PANEL";

(ii) by striking "subsection (c)" and inserting "subsection (b)"; and

(iii) by striking "the Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "a copyright arbitration royalty panel"; and

(E) by striking subsections (e), (f), and (g).

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 1 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by striking "116A" and inserting "116".

SEC. 4. PUBLIC BROADCASTING COMPULSORY LICENSE.

Section 118 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking the first 2 sentences;

(B) in the third sentence by striking "works specified by this subsection" and inserting "published nondramatic musical works and published pictorial, graphic, and sculptural works";

(C) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the first sentence by striking ", within one hundred and twenty days after publication of the notice specified in this subsection,"; and

(ii) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(D) in paragraph (2) by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(E) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking the first sentence and inserting the following: "In the absence of license agreements negotiated under paragraph (2), the Librarian of Congress shall, pursuant to chapter 8, convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel to determine and publish in the Federal Register a schedule of rates and terms which, subject to paragraph (2), shall be binding on all owners of copyright in works specified by this subsection and public broadcasting entities, regardless of whether such copyright owners have submitted proposals to the Librarian of Congress.";

(ii) in the second sentence—

(I) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "copyright arbitration royalty panel"; and

(II) by striking "clause (2) of this subsection" and inserting "paragraph (2)"; and

(iii) in the last sentence by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(F) by striking paragraph (4);

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking "1982" and inserting "1997"; and

(B) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking "to the transitional provisions of subsection (b)(4), and";

(B) by striking "the Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "a copyright arbitration royalty panel";

(C) in paragraphs (2) and (3) by striking "clause" each place it appears and inserting "paragraph"; and

(4) in subsection (g) by striking "clause" and inserting "paragraph".

SEC. 5. SECONDARY TRANSMISSIONS OF SUPERSTATIONS AND NETWORK STATIONS FOR PRIVATE HOME VIEWING.

Section 119 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking "; after consultation with the Copyright Royalty Tribunal," each place it appears;

(B) in paragraph (2) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(C) in paragraph (3) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(D) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(ii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(iii) in subparagraph (B) by striking "conduct a proceeding" in the last sentence and inserting "convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel"; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the subsection caption by striking "DETERMINATION" and inserting "ADJUSTMENT";

(B) in paragraph (2) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(II) by striking the last sentence and inserting the following: "Such arbitration proceeding shall be conducted under chapter 8.";

(ii) by striking subparagraphs (B) and (C);

(iii) in subparagraph (D)—

(I) by redesignating such subparagraph as subparagraph (B); and

(II) by striking "Arbitration Panel" and inserting "copyright" arbitration royalty panel appointed under chapter 8";

(iv) by striking subparagraphs (E) and (F);

(v) by amending subparagraph (G) to read as follows:

"(C) PERIOD DURING WHICH DECISION OF ARBITRATION PANEL OR ORDER OF LIBRARIAN EFFECTIVE.—The obligation to pay the royalty fee established under a determination which—

"(i) is made by a copyright arbitration royalty panel in an arbitration proceeding under this paragraph and is adopted by the Librarian of Congress under section 802(e), or

"(ii) is established by the Librarian of Congress under section 802(e),

shall become effective as provided in section 802(f)."; and

(vi) in subparagraph (H)—

(I) by redesignating such subparagraph as subparagraph (D); and

(II) by striking "adopted or ordered under subparagraph (F)" and inserting "referred to in subparagraph (C)"; and

(D) by striking paragraph (4).

SEC. 6. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) CABLE COMPULSORY LICENSE.—Section 111(d) of title 17, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) Paragraph (1) is amended by striking ", after consultation with the Copyright Royalty Tribunal (if and when the Tribunal has been constituted),".

(2) Paragraph (1)(A) is amended by striking ", after consultation with the Copyright Royalty Tribunal (if and when the Tribunal has been constituted),".

(3) Paragraph (2) is amended by striking the second and third sentences and by inserting the following: "All funds held by the Secretary of the Treasury shall be invested in interest-bearing United States securities for later distribution with interest by the Librarian of Congress in the event no controversy over distribution exists, or by a copyright arbitration royalty panel in the event a controversy over such distribution exists.".

(4) Paragraph (4)(A) is amended—

(A) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(B) by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

(5) Paragraph (4)(B) is amended to read as follows:

"(B) After the first day of August of each year, the Librarian of Congress shall, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, determine whether there exists a controversy concerning the distribution of royalty fees. If the Librarian determines that no such controversy exists, the Librarian shall, after deducting reasonable administrative costs under this section, distribute such fees to the copyright owners entitled to such fees, or to their designated agents. If the Librarian finds the existence of a controversy, the Librarian shall, pursuant to chapter 8 of this title, convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel to determine the distribution of royalty fees.".

(6) Paragraph (4)(C) is amended by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

(b) AUDIO HOME RECORDING ACT.—

(1) ROYALTY PAYMENTS.—Section 1004(a)(3) of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(B) by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

(2) DEPOSIT OF ROYALTY PAYMENTS.—Section 1006 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by striking the last sentence.

(3) ENTITLEMENT TO ROYALTY PAYMENTS.—Section 1006(c) of title 17, United States Code, is amended by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress shall convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel which".

(4) PROCEDURES FOR DISTRIBUTING ROYALTY PAYMENTS.—Section 1007 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(1)—

(i) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(ii) by striking "Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(ii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(C) in subsection (c)—

(i) by striking the first sentence and inserting "If the Librarian of Congress finds the existence of a controversy, the Librarian shall, pursuant to chapter 8 of this title, convene a copyright arbitration royalty panel to determine the distribution of royalty payments.";

(ii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(iii) in the last sentence by striking "its reasonable administrative costs" and inserting "the reasonable administrative costs incurred by the Librarian".

(5) ARBITRATION OF CERTAIN DISPUTES.—Section 1010 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (b)—

(i) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(ii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(B) in subsection (e)—

(i) in the subsection caption by striking "COPYRIGHT ROYALTY TRIBUNAL" and inserting "LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS"; and

(ii) by striking Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(C) in subsection (f)—

(i) in the subsection caption by striking "COPYRIGHT ROYALTY TRIBUNAL" and inserting "LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS";

(ii) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(iii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress"; and

(iv) in the third sentence by striking "its" and inserting "the Librarian's"; and

(D) in subsection (g)—

(i) by striking "Copyright Royalty Tribunal" and inserting "Librarian of Congress";

(ii) by striking "Tribunal's decision" and inserting "decision of the "Librarian of Congress"; and

(iii) by striking "Tribunal" each place it appears and inserting "Librarian of Congress".

SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TRANSITION PROVISIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) EFFECTIVENESS OF EXISTING RATES AND DISTRIBUTIONS.—All royalty rates and all determinations with respect to the proportionate division of compulsory license fees among copyright claimants, whether made be the Copyright Royalty Tribunal, or by voluntary agreement, before the effective date set forth in subsection (a) shall remain in effect until modified by voluntary agreement or pursuant to the amendments made by this Act.

(c) TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS.—All unexpended balances of appropriations made to the Copyright Royalty Tribunal, as of the effective date of this Act, are transferred on such effective date to the Copyright Office for use by the Copyright Office for the purposes for which such appropriations were made.

SEC. 8. LIMITATIONS ON PERFORMANCE OF LONGSHORE WORK BY ALIEN CREWMEMBERS—ALASKA EXCEPTION.

(a) ALASKA EXCEPTION.—Section 258 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1288) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection:

"(d) STATE OF ALASKA EXCEPTION.—(1) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a particular activity of longshore work at a particular location in the State of Alaska if an employer of alien crewmen has filed an attestation with the Secretary of Labor at least 30 days before the date of the first performance of the activity (or anytime up to 24 hours before the first performance of the activity, upon a showing that the employer could not have reasonably anticipated the need to file an attestation for that location at that time) setting forth facts and evidence to show that—

"(A) the employer will make a bona fide request for United States longshore workers who are qualified and available in sufficient numbers to perform the activity at the particular time and location from the parties to whom notice has been provided under clauses (ii) and (iii) of subparagraph (D), except that—

"(i) wherever two or more contract stevedoring companies have signed a joint collective bargaining agreement with a single labor organization described in subparagraph (D)(i), the employer may request longshore workers from only one of such contract stevedoring companies, and

"(ii) a request for longshore workers to an operator of a private dock may be made only for longshore work to be performed at that dock and only if the operator meets the requirements of section 32 of the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (33 U.S.C. 932);

"(B) the employer will employ all those United States longshore workers made available in response to the request made pursuant to subparagraph (A) who are qualified and available in sufficient numbers and who are needed to perform the longshore activity at the particular time and location;

"(C) the use of alien crewmembers for such activity is not intended or designed to influence an election of a bargaining representative for workers in the State of Alaska; and

"(D) notice of the attestation has been provided by the employer to—

"(i) labor organizations which have been recognized as exclusive bargaining representatives of United States longshore workers within the meaning of the National Labor Relations Act and which make available or intend to make available workers to the particular location where the longshore work is to be performed,

"(ii) contract stevedoring companies which employ or intend to employ United States longshore workers at that location, and

"(iii) operators of private docks at which the employer will use longshore workers.

"(2)(A) An employer filing an attestation under paragraph (1) who seeks to use alien crewmen to perform longshore work shall be responsible while the attestation is valid to make bona fide requests for United States longshore workers under paragraph (1)(A) and to employ United States longshore workers, as provided in paragraph (1)(B), before using alien crewmen to perform the activity or activities specified in the attestation, except that an employer shall not be required to request longshore workers from a party if that party has notified the employer in writing that it does not intend to make available United States longshore workers to the location at which the longshore work is to be performed.

"(B) If a party that has provided such notice subsequently notifies the employer in writing that it is prepared to make available United States longshore workers who are qualified and available in sufficient numbers to perform the longshore activity to the location at which the longshore work is to be performed, then the employer's obligations to that party under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) shall be 60 days following the issuance of such notice.

"(3)(A) In no case shall an employer filing an attestation be required—

"(i) to hire less than a full work unit of United States longshore workers needed to perform the longshore activity;

"(ii) to provide overnight accommodations for the longshore workers while employed; or

"(iii) to provide transportation to the place of work, except where—

"(I) surface transportation is available;

"(II) such transportation may be safely accomplished;

"(III) travel time to the vessel does not exceed one-half hour each way; and

"(IV) travel distance to the vessel from the point of embarkation does not exceed 5 miles.

"(B) In the cases of Wide Bay, Alaska, and Klawock/Craig, Alaska, the travel times and travel distances specified in subclauses (III) and (IV) of subparagraph (A) shall be extended to 45 minutes and 7.5 miles, respectively, unless the party responding to the request for longshore workers agrees to the lesser time and distance limitations specified in those subclauses.

"(4) Subject to subparagraphs (A) through (D) of subsection (c)(4), attestations filed under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall—

"(A) expire at the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date the employer anticipates the longshore work to begin, as specified in the attestation filed with the Secretary of Labor, and

"(B) apply to aliens arriving in the United States during such 1-year period if the owner, agent, consignee, master, or commanding officer states in each list under section 251 that it continues to comply with the conditions in the attestation.

"(5)(A) Except as otherwise provided by subparagraph (B), subsection (c)(3) and subparagraphs (A) through (E) of subsection (c)(4) shall apply to attestations filed under this subsection.

"(B) The use of alien crewmen to perform longshore work in Alaska consisting of the use of an automated self-unloading conveyor belt or vacuum-actuated system on a vessel shall be governed by the provisions of subsection (c).

"(6) For purposes of this subsection—

"(A) the term 'contract stevedoring companies' means those stevedoring companies licensed to do business in the State of Alaska that meet the requirements of section 32 of the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (33 U.S.C. 932); and

"(B) the term 'employer' includes any agent or representative designated by the employer; and

"(C) the terms 'qualified' and 'available in sufficient numbers' shall be defined by reference to industry standards in the State of Alaska, including safety considerations.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 258(a) (8 U.S.C. 1288(a)) is amended by striking "subsection (c) or subsection (d)" and inserting "subsection (c), (d), or (e)".

(2) Section 258(c)(4)(A) (8 U.S.C. 1288(c)(4)(A)) is amended by inserting "or subsection (d)(1)" after "paragraph (1)" each of the two places it appears.

(3) Section 258(c) (8 U.S.C. 1288(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5) Except as provided in paragraph (5) of subsection (d), this subsection shall not apply to longshore work performed in the State of Alaska.".

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—(1) The Secretary of Labor shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(2) Attestations filed pursuant to section 258(c) (8 U.S.C. 1288(c)) with the Secretary of Labor before the date of enactment of this Act shall remain valid until 60 days after the date of issuance of final regulations by the Secretary under this section.

Mr. BROOKS (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I shall not object, but I wish to give the gentleman from Texas the opportunity to explain this legislation, and I yield to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. BROOKS].

(Mr. BROOKS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

(Mr. HUGHES asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2840 abolishes the Copyright Royalty Tribunal and reassigns its duties to ad hoc arbitration panels, the Copyright Office, and the Librarian of Congress.

This legislation passed the House on October 12, 1993, under suspension of the rules.

On November 20, the Senate passed the legislation with an amendment adding a provision which narrowly redefines the limitations on the performance of longshore work by alien crewmen in Alaska. This action was taken in response to problems which have arisen due to the implementation of the Immigration Technical Corrections Act of 1991. The present provision reflects an agreement finally reached between fishing interests and the longshore union in Alaska. I am delighted that the groups were able to resolve their differences before the expiration of the interim agreement next month.

As far as I know, the Senate amendment is without opposition in this body as well.

I urge its adoption.

Mr. HUGHES. Mr. Speaker, the House passed this bill on October 12. The Senate passed the bill on November 20, with a few technical amendments. These amendments represent improvements and I urge my colleagues to support the bill and concur in the Senate amendments.

This bill will abolish the Copyright Royalty Tribunal, the only Government agency to be eliminated this session of Congress despite a lot of talk about reinventing Government. The tribunal's light workload and its members' inability to operate under majority rule argue for its abolition and replacement with ad hoc arbitration panels. This bill will save taxpayers and copyright owners money.

I wish to thank my colleague, CARLOS MOORHEAD, ranking Republican member of the Subcommittee for Intellectual Property and Judicial Administration, which I chair, for his leadership on the bill, as well as Senators DECONCINI and HATCH, who were the sponsors of the legislation in the other body, and without whom this legislation would not have been possible.

I would like to briefly explain the amendments made by the Senate.

First, in order to address concerns of small royalty claimants, the Senate amendments requires the Librarian of Congress to choose two arbitrators from lists provided by professional arbitration association, rather than, as in the House-passed bill, from lists provided by the parties.

Second, in order to ensure that the arbitrations will be efficiently handled, the arbitrators selected are required to have experience in conducting arbitration proceedings and facilitating dispute resolution and settlement.

Third, the arbitration panels are required to conduct their proceedings according to the Administrative Procedures Act.

Fourth, the Librarian of Congress is required to adopt the rules and regulations of the Copyright Royalty Tribunal until such time as the Librarian, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, adopts superseding or supplemental regulations.

Fifth, the Librarian of Congress is directed to adopt the arbitration panel's decisions unless he or she finds those decisions are arbitrary or contrary to the applicable provisions of title 17, United States Code. The House-passed limited this review to arbitrary determinations.

Sixth, assignment of the costs of the arbitration proceedings is treated differently depending on whether the proceeding is one for ratemaking or distribution of royalties. If the proceeding is for ratemaking, the parties shall bear the cost in direct proportion to their share of the distribution. If the proceeding is for distribution of royalties, the parties are to bear costs in such manner and proportion as the arbitration panel directs. The House-passed version had only method of allocating costs, that for distribution proceedings.

Seventh, the Librarian of Congress is directed to adopt regulations regarding the standards of conduct governing arbitration panels. No such provision was contained in the House-passed bill. The establishment of ethical criteria in the selection and conduct of arbitrators is a welcome addition to the legislation.

Eighth, the effective date of the act has been changed from January 1, 1994, to the date of enactment. Since the 1990 cable distribution has been suspended at the request of the parties, there is no need to delay the effective date.

I would also like to comment briefly on a few issues raised by the parties who currently participate in proceedings of the Copyright Royalty Tribunal. There are a number of practices of the tribunal that have grown up over the years and that should be continued by the ad hoc arbitration panels established by H.R. 2840. The first of these concerns partial distribution of royalty funds. Even in instances where there is a controversy over the distribution of royalties, the CRT has traditionally distributed a very large proportion of the royalties before final adjudication. An amount sufficient to cover disputed amounts is retained. This practice, which gets needed royalties to copyright owners at the earliest possible time is a good one and should be followed by the Librarian of Congress upon enactment of the Copyright Royalty Reform Act of 1993.

The CRT has also held open hearings at which oral testimony and cross examination is permitted. This too should be continued by the copyright arbitration royalty panels. In order to reduce the amount of actual litigation time, and thereby reduce expenses, I encourage the Librarian to promulgate regulations permitting exchange of information before the tolling of the 180 decision period, and, to the extent practicable, generally to permit precontroversy discovery.

As discussed above, the Senate amendments require the Librarian of Congress to select arbitrators from a list supplied from professional arbitration associations and to select individuals with experience in adjudication and dispute settlement. I have been informed that there are such associations which include former Federal and State judges. These individuals would appear to be well-qualified to perform the arbitration duties assigned under the bill.

Parties who appear before the CRT requested that the bill require the Librarian to choose arbitrators willing to serve a 6-year term in order that there be continuity in decisionmaking. These individuals would only be paid as they needed, however. I agree that continuity is desirable. The Librarian of Congress certainly has the discretion to chose individuals willing to serve for 6 years. The Senate decided not to make this a requirement, however, and I agree with that decision.

Mr. MOORHEAD. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the initial request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.