WASHINGTON, DC UPDATE: APRIL 14, 2023

SIGN UP FOR ECA’S 2023 LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY!

Registration is now open for ECA’s 2023 Legislative Action Day on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC!

- Join ECA as we bring industry leaders and advocates together on Thursday, June 1 to meet with their members of Congress and advocate for ECA’s top federal policy priorities.
- This year’s event will be held in conjunction with the Lippman Connects Exhibition and Convention Executives Forum (ECEF), which will take place on Wednesday, May 31.

Stay tuned: Preview webinars, advocate training sessions, and more begin starting next week!

Go deeper: Thanks to Exhibition World, Association Meetings International, and USAE for sharing the news with their readers.

1. 235 ORGANIZATIONS TELL THE FTC TO STEP UP AND #STOPFRAUD

In recent days, 235 groups—including all 10 ECA alliance partners!—sent a letter to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) urging it to finalize a new rule targeting business impersonation fraud (BIF).

- The big picture: BIF scammers continue to prey on our industry via increasingly-sophisticated hotel reservation scams and email attendee list sale scams.
- The bottom line: The proposed rule would give the FTC another important enforcement tool to go after these fraudsters.

Thanks to the Consumer Technology Association, IAEE, and ASAE for leading the charge on this effort!

Read more on this important issue from Skift Meetings and Trade Show Executive.

2. COURT RULING REITERATES IMPORTANCE OF MUSIC LICENSING ADVOCACY

Last month, BMI won a 138% increase in music licensing rates in a rate court victory against concert promoters including Live Nation, AEG, and the North American Concert Promoters Association.

- Why it matters: While this ruling only directly impacts concert promoters, it may boost efforts by rights holders to seek rate increases and go after ancillary revenue streams more broadly.
- At this time, it is unclear whether this ruling will be appealed.

On Capitol Hill, the MIC Coalition—which includes ECA, IAEE, IAVM, and SISO—is actively engaged on efforts to address music licensing challenges including a lack of transparency, coercive behavior and overreach by rights holders, rights holders not governed by consent decrees, and more.

3. ECA NEWS AND NOTES

- TSNN’s Trade Show Talk podcast featured ECA’s Tommy Goodwin on this week’s episode.
- PCMA Convene provided an update on ECA’s latest advocacy efforts.
- ECA’s recent advocacy win in Kentucky was highlighted by Event Industry News, Trade Show Executive, and the EXHIBITOR Now podcast.

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