

# SENATOR MARSHA BLACKBURN



## CREATIVE COMMUNITY FACT SHEET



“Nashville became known as Music City because of the talented community of independent singers, songwriters, and musicians who are now struggling to keep their heads above water. A litany of small businesses that are fighting every day for survival. In this time of fear and uncertainty, it is important that we do not abandon these creators who lift our spirits. With that in mind, I am leading bipartisan team of advocates to ensure that all music industry professionals benefit from the provisions of rescue packages. I thank the Nashville creative community for their resilience and am honored to weather the storm alongside such an extraordinary group of Tennesseans.”

– **Senator Marsha Blackburn**

## TIMELINE

### DECEMBER 2020

#### CREATIVES TESTIFY BEFORE SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE 12/15

- “We’re not about out of money. We have been out of money. 30% of our industry is gone now.” – Michael Strickland, *Bandit Lites*
- “We need your help to ensure that the arts, our venues, and our industry will survive this pandemic so that the voices of our great American creative community will have the platform from which to speak to us, to challenge us, and to inspire us to be our best self.” - David Fay, *Bushnell Center for Performing Arts*
- “This relief should help every venue, company, and professional involved in the live entertainment industry in the next COVID-19 legislative package. We were one of the first industries to bear the brunt of the pandemic, and we will be one the of the last to get back to normal.” – Ron Laffitte, *Patriot Management*

#### A CANDID CONVERSATION WITH A GRAMMY AWARD WINNING PRODUCER

- Joe West joined me on ‘[Unmuted with Marsha](#)’ to talk about his lively career in music and how the pandemic has impacted our creative community.



# SENATOR MARSHA BLACKBURN



## CREATIVE COMMUNITY FACT SHEET



### GETTING OUR ARTISTS BACK IN THE STUDIO

- I introduced the bipartisan [Help Independent Tracks Succeed Act](#) with Senator Feinstein (D-Calif.), to allow musicians, technicians, and producers to deduct all of their recording production expenses.
- The bill would allow up to \$150,000 in recording production expenses to be deducted in the year they are incurred, rather than over the life of the recording. This will ease the burden on our creative community and foster job creation.

### NOVEMBER 2020

#### COUNTRY MUSIC INDUSTRY NEEDS RELIEF NOW

- The live entertainment industry shutdown has negatively impacted many industry professionals through no fault of their own. The industry is at a standstill, and needs targeted relief now. Watch my speech about the economic impact on the country music industry [here](#).

#### SENATE FLOOR SPEECH: COUNTRY MUSIC INDUSTRY



### JULY 2020

#### SUPPORTING BUSINESSES IMPACTED BY THE PANDEMIC

- I cosponsored the [RESTART Act](#) to help provide partially forgivable loans to businesses that have sustained losses during the COVID-19 pandemic and were unable to receive assistance via the Paycheck Protection Program.

# SENATOR MARSHA BLACKBURN



## CREATIVE COMMUNITY FACT SHEET



### MAY 2020

#### RELIEF FOR THE LIVE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

- Along with Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA), I led a [letter](#) urging Senate leadership to include in future coronavirus response legislation targeted relief for live entertainment industry workers.

### APRIL 2020

#### THIS IS WHAT STRENGTH LOOKS LIKE

- I worked with singers and songwriters to show our audience examples of what strength truly looks like during trying times.



Kenny Alphin, *Big and Rich*



Richie McDonald, *Lonestar*



Dave Mustaine, *Megadeth*