

Hello ,

I understand that there is a move afoot to alter the copyright on recorded music from the current 50 years to 95 years .

This would be disastrous for anyone new to and interested in historical recordings of many musical traditions as unless you can find the recordings in the original format (and have the facility to play that format) they are currently only available from a limited number of specialist labels who record them to CD .

Taking 95 years as a basis would mean going back to 1911 , since the recording industry didn't start properly until 1898 , this effectively means 90% of all recorded material , this material is recorded on early technologies such as cylinder records (till 1930) and 78rpm records (till 1963) and 45 rpm and 33rpm records (till the 1980's) , few people now have equipment which can play these old formats and the companies that own the master recordings have proved very lax in putting their archive out as the number of interested customers is small , they would never consider making 500 or 1,000 CDs !!.

The current 50 year copyright is a good compromise as it enables small CD record labels to issue low volume CDs of historical and no longer released items to enthusiasts , these businesses don't infringe the rights of current wealthy pop artists such as Cliff Richard and Elton John nor do they take money away from the Record companies who aren't inter4sted in issuing these recordings anyway

keep it at 50 years !!!

regards

Mike Child