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To: Julie L. Sigall
Associate Register for Policy & International Affairs

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From: Meredith Woods

Comment:

**Public television needs less onerous copyright laws for its survival.// ** I am an Emmy Award winning researcher for PBS and in my 20 years in the field we have faced an increasing burden tracking down copyright holders for our programs.// I started my career in 1985, working on the Academy Award nominated documentary series about the Civil Rights Movement, EYES ON THE PRIZE. As the US Copyright Office may be aware, that groundbreaking series is now out of public circulation and can not be re-televised on PBS because the original copyright licenses have expired and the renewal costs are prohibitive.

HENRY HAMPTON, the founder of BLACKSIDE, INC., the company that produced EYES ON THE PRIZE, died in 1998 and since his death no one has been able to raise the half-a-million dollars or more that is needed to re-acquire licenses for broadcast and track down the original copyright holders who have since disappeared.// For two decades EYES ON THE PRIZE, has been honored as a model educational tool for elementary school, high school and college students. Its re-airing under more liberal fair use guidelines would allow a new generation of citizens to become better acquainted with American history.// PBS desperately needs relief from prohibitive copyright regulation.