

HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.  
4TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1004**

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October 18, 2016

Senator Chris Dodd  
Chairman & CEO  
Motion Picture Association of America  
1600 I Street NW  
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Senator Dodd:

I am following up on a letter I sent to your office a few months ago, and our subsequent conversation, regarding the commitment by the Motion Picture Association (MPAA) along with its member companies and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences regarding diversity and inclusion, especially within the African-American community. As a former United States Democratic Senator and party chairman, you are very familiar with the significance diversity and representation has with me and my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC). This is why I am very disturbed there has been zero follow-up to our conversation more than seven months ago.

The public outcry due to the lack of diversity during the 2016 Oscars Awards ceremony is not going away – nor should Congress allow it to recede from the public eye. I represent one of the largest film hubs in the country, Atlanta. Diversity is important to my constituents who seek equal opportunities not only in the film industry but across the board. In addition, African-Americans are major consumers of movies and entertainment and play a significant role in the industry. The CBC is engaging industries on the discussion of diversity and holding them accountable if they are not meeting basic requirements commensurate with the level of support they receive from the African-American community.

I look forward to further discussing this issue with you and MPAA's member companies. In addition, as we have with other industries, I plan to begin a dialogue regarding the industry's diversity efforts with other members of the CBC, whose support for the creative community has been significant. Please feel free to contact me or my Chief of Staff, Arthur Sidney at (202) 225-1605. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.

Member of Congress

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
2240 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
PHONE (202) 225-1605  
FAX (202) 226-0691

DISTRICT OFFICE  
5700 HILLDALE DRIVE, SUITE 120  
LITHONIA, GA 30058  
PHONE (770) 987-2291  
FAX (770) 987-8721