To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of keeping the long standing and effective Paramount Consent Decrees in place. As an independent film exhibitor in Nashville, Tennessee, the decrees have provided the kinds of protections that have allowed us the freedom to program the best, highest quality films for our community without the fear of studio pressures around block booking or price fixing. While lifting the decrees could have a negative impact on the film exhibition industry at large, the highest stakes are for the truly independent theatres, whose operations are more directly in service to their community and don’t have the national clout of the large theatre chains to push back against studio policies that are harmful. Theatres are vital cultural centers. A theatre like the Belcourt is known for our film curation — it is one of the things that has brought us significant success and acclaim. If the studios were able to return to practices like block booking it would fundamentally change our ability to do the work in the way we do it which is specifically designed to serve our community and region. Please keep the current Paramount consent decrees in place — they have served the exhibition community and our film-going constituents long and well.

Best regards,

The Belcourt Theatre
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Nashville, TN 37212

www.belcourt.org