US Copywrite Office,

17 July 2015

I am writing this in support of several members of my family that are hard working artists. The changes proposed by Orrin Hatch and Patrick Leahy to revive the Orphan Works Act of 2008 and base future Copyright law on it will substantially hurt their commercial business as an active Illustrators, Artists, and Film Producers. It is ill conceived and basically makes theft of my work legal. This law proposal is based on fewer that 215 letters submitted to the copyright office and NONE by practicing Artists.

The works they create are based off royalties and profit from the direct sales of their works. They license their work (their assets) that they have poured education money and time into in order to support themselves. *For example:* my nephew creates hundreds to thousands of sketches and paintings for an individual projects. If this law is enacted then he would be required to register every single sketch, drawing, painting etc right down to a 10 second thumbnail drawing past present, or future in order to protect himself and his business. He should not be compelled to turn over his assets to competitors any more than FORD motor company should have to relinquish theirs to another car company. THIS PROPOSAL IS THEFT OF SERVICES! Article 1.8 of the Constitution provides protection for their work.

If a company needs intellectual property for their businesses, they either must produce it themselves or pay a person who has devoted their livelihood to creating it. If they want a story or picture or song or creation someone else made they must pay that person for their work. Anything else is stealing. You would legitimize criminal activities and make it impossible for them to make a living causing a serious financial problem for their family.

The public interest in their work is not more important than them making a living.

DO NOT change the US copyright law to reflect anything written that is in anyway similar to the Orphan Works Bill of 2008.

Sincerely,

Joan Tober