Dear Members of Congress,

I have been an illustrator for 58 years and, since 1986, I have been the Principal Poster Artist for Lincoln Center Theater in New York. I have also created many children's books with my wife, Kate McMullan, and have done illustrations for all the major US publishers including New York Magazine for whom I did the series of paintings that became the visual inspiration for the movie *Saturday Night Fever*.

All of my theater posters have generated secondary sales, often years after the initial production. If, for instance, my poster for *Anything Goes* became an orphan work I would be cheated out of thousands of dollars of fees from the use of this iconic image for new productions of the musical. The children's book illustrations also have a long life, both as republished books and as individual images.

The copyright issue at stake here goes to the heart of what it means to be an artist. If the authenticity that we strive to achieve in our work can be commandeered by anyone in the marketplace, then the law is essentially saying that there is no unique expression in the world worth protecting. Since artists are already so much at the mercy of corporate interests, to give these large companies the freedom to pick from our work whatever pieces they want and to use them in any way they choose is the final collapse of the balance of power that we have fought for.

I ask you to step back and see the issue from the point of view of all of us individual artists and not simply from the vantage point of companies that have figured out how to profit from our work if Congress gives them the liberty to do so.

Sincerely,
James McMullan