To Whom It May Concern:

It has come to my attention that a revision to the 1976 Copyright Act is being discussed. In my opinion, while on the surface, this seems like a good idea; but from what I have heard so far, it is being addressed the wrong way. As an artist of twenty-one years who is also active on the Internet, the current rule of work being copyrighted automatically upon creation works just fine. I would like to emphasize that I am a registered voter in the United States, have a Bachelor's degree in the arts, a Master's degree in creative writing, and am working on getting a Ph.D. in online education. I have studied copyright laws, and live in a state that is considered the home of copyright lawyers. I understand that copyright is rather murky; however, I also feel the need to inform you of the current state of affairs.

Firstly, any form of copyright enforcement on the Internet is not quite feasible. We artists understand this; remarkably, we are rather self-efficient as far as policing ourselves goes. Secondly, from what I have heard of the research already being performed, this proposal is rather insulting to artists and much too beneficial to thieves. Furthermore, delivering the copyrights to businesses smacks too much of trusts and monopolies, which is unconstitutional thanks to President Theodore Roosevelt's terms in office. Continuing on, it is still much too easy for thieves to remove watermarks and signatures—therefore, assuming that every piece of work out there is properly referenced is folly. *That* is the singular answer to the April 24, 2015 Docket No. 2015-01 inquiry.

From the sounds of it, the proposal indicates that artists cannot keep their work—it would take much too long to register every finished piece, half-thought, and sketch. In the meantime, the now-protected thieves would run rampant. While I agree that copyright law needs to be

made clearer, this is not the way to do it. If you wish to help copyright holders, then rid us of the trusts that steal our work out from under us under the guise of "representing" us. I am quite capable of defending my own work—do not attempt to take that right away from me, as we *are* still a free country and not a Socio-communistic country; I hope we never become such a country. Let us police ourselves—we are the ones who know what we need best, not an outside layman. Again, I will emphasize: the Copyright Law of 1976 works *just fine*.

Thank you for considering.

Sincerely,

Kelsey Dickson