

Jason Bascom : Artist/Illustrator/Freelancer

Dear Copyright Office,

I am writing to express the importance on maintaining the copyrights to my creations and works. I am a freelance artist as well as an individual with the hopes of creating and selling my own visions. I am not a major name in the art community, nor do I make a full time living doing what I love. If the new copyright laws are to be passed it will make it even more difficult than it currently is. Networking online is a major part of getting the word of mouth out of any upcoming projects or even just my own creations. If the new laws were to pass anyone could just grab anything I, or other artists, produce and package and sell it as their own leaving me even more in poverty than I already am. I know a lot of independent artists (this includes muscians, writers, photographers and more) that rely on the digital realm to showcase work and grow an audience. Unfortunately, in today's age, it is easier and easier to steal what us artists have poured our souls into and pirate it as their own and dilute the quality and integrity of what we have taken our whole lives to learn. If the new laws were to pass you would be vindicating and justifying the behavior of pirates that range from the teenager living at home to big corporations that don't want to pay someone what they deserve and have earned to get paid. So many of us have chosen the artistic profession not to become rich, but to maintain a comfortable living by doing what we love to do. If the copyright laws change it will be food out of our mouths and our family's mouths. Bills end up going unpaid, rent unpaid, health costs as well as medication, or even health benefits would cease to be, all so people wont need to pay an artist. All for the benefit of corporations to pirate, steal, snatch, whatever they want to claim as theirs and use as their own. Should I then take someone's car and claim it as mine simply because it's there, no. I'd be arrested because theft is illegal. The new copyright laws would be claiming otherwise.

Thank you for reading

Sincerely,

Jason Bascom