To all whom it may concern,

I want to strongly urge you not to pass the upcoming new draft of our copyright law, the so-called “orphan works bill”. The law as written is ripe for abuse, and if it passes artists of all stripes will be gravely hurt by it; the current social climate of the nation regarding those in what are generally considered “creative” professions makes it absolutely certain that a vast majority will take advantage of the loopholes in this law. Many freelancers cannot afford to pay the fees necessary to have every individual work registered with private copyright registries. The only other recourse would be to refrain entirely from sharing their work publicly-which is the only way they are able to find work. If this passes countless people will essentially be condemned to unemployment, homelessness, or worse. These are often cited as some of our nation's most pressing problems; the last thing the country needs is a law that is practically tailor-made to make them worse.

Thank you for your time

Trevor Gale