July 20, 2015

Maria Pallante
Register of Copyrights
U.S. Copyright Office
101Independence Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20559-6000

Dear Ms. Pallante and US Copyright Office:

Good day to you all, I hope your days are going well. Unlike the example letters that I have looked at regarding the reactions toward the proposed change to the current copyright law, I am not a full time or even part time artist, I am nothing more than a simple hobbyist at this point. That being said, I do wish to one day make a living off of my work, all the code I write and all the images I create. However, from what I have heard, the changes would discourage me, and many others, from even trying to distribute or even make their own works, as the work we all make wont be protected in the slightest, until we submit a claim, and the money to process it, to a copyright processing company.

The question of money is a big deal for many modern day authors, as a large amount of them barely make it by as it is. They work hard and long hours creating their works, toiling until it is made more than perfect, only to have a few people push a few dollars toward them, as many already believe they don't need to pay for anything digital. Any additional cost meant to "protect" the work from those who can pay to take the licenses to work would only hurt the author, taking away from the tiny quantity they are making to scrape by. And even then, there would be no protection for their work, as a bigger group could easily steal the work, and register it as their own, by doing something as simple as mirroring or changing the color of the work, something that may have been difficult one day, but is incredibly simple with the click of a button.

I am not a well spoken man, my writing is slow so I cant send you much to read, but please do not let this sort of thing come into effect. If any of these changes happen, most artists would be negatively affected, and not only a little, at a cost of thousands of hours and thousands of dollars. This may not sound like much to some people, but for one person, barely surviving, it is far to much to ask.

I thank you for your time,
Zachary J Spratt