July 17, 2015

To The US Copyright Office:

The changes proposed by Orrin Hatch and Patrick Leahy to revive the Orphan Works Act of 2008 and base future copyright law on it will substantially hurt my commercial business as an active Illustrator. This law proposal is based on fewer that 215 letter submitted to the copyright office and NONE by practicing Artists.

Most of the works we create are based off royalties. We license our work (our assets) that we have poured education, money, and time into, in order to support ourselves and anyone we subcontract to help us. We should not be compelled to turn over our assets to competitors any more than FORD Motor Company should have to relinquish theirs to another car company. THIS PROPOSAL IS THEFT OF SERVICES! Article 1.8 of the Constitution provides protection for our work.

If a company needs intellectual property for their businesses, they either must produce it themselves or pay a person who has devoted their livelihood to creating it. If they want a story, or picture, or song, or creation someone else made they must pay that person for their work, anything else is stealing.

The public interest in my work is not more important than me making a living.

DO NOT change the US copyright law to reflect anything written that is in anyway similar to the Orphan Works Bill of 2008.

Sincerely,

Shannon Baur