Date: July 22, 2015

To: U.S. Copyright Office

From: Todd Sherman

Re: *My opposition to:* The Next Great Copyright Act

I have been a professional artist since the late 1970's. I have a Masters of Fine Art degree with an emphasis in printmaking from Pratt Institute and a BA in Art from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Much of my livelihood the past 4 decades has been through the creation and sale of my artwork. I live in Fairbanks and work as an artist and an arts educator.

I am NOT in favor of the proposed "The Next Great Copyright Act". This new copyright act would void our Constitutional right to the exclusive control of our work. I very much wish to retain the rights to my work by using the current method of using a copyright symbol, my name and the date. By allowing others to determine and use "orphaned" work, we are setting a precedent in our country that is reminiscent of authoritarian regimes where the individual artist/creator has little control over their livelihood and their own destiny.

Please consider that copyright law and its protections are not an abstract issue but are extremely important in the creation and sale of mine and many others' artwork. It is important that we determine how and by whom our artwork is used.

Thank you.