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Re: changes to the copyright laws/orphan works

I've been an artist and natural science illustrator for the better part of thirty years. I'm a graduate of Indiana University and have won many awards. I'm very upset and concerned over the proposed revisions to the copyright laws. The images I create are products of my hard work, creativity and personal vision. They constitute an inventory I draw from to earn my living. These images can be sources of income for me over many platforms and I should have the right to control where the images are used, how they're used, who uses them and the right to get paid for the usage. My income is meager and I can't afford to "register" every single image I create. I shouldn't have to be forced to do so.

If I create an image it is mine! No one should have the right to use it without my permission and without paying me because it is more convenient for them and more beneficial to their bottom line. If they use one of my images without permission and compensation it is theft. There is no other word for it.

Please take the rights of the hard working artist into consideration as you review these laws. Taking away our rights to own and control our own work is not justice.

Sandra L. Williams