To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you today to oppose the Orphan Works copyright laws that would be proposed in the near future. This bill would do massive damage to small, independent artists and content producers by requiring extra steps to secure copyright for their works, when their time is already limited. Conversely, all it requires for a corporation to step in and use their work (or any content: writing, family photos, anything) is to make a "good faith" attempt to find this person. I for one do not trust a corporation to act in good faith before stealing my work, and I'm well aware of many artists who are already having their art stolen by various clothing companies. The only reason the 'public' would want these artworks to be orphaned is so they can repurpose them without the artist's permission. We already have laws protecting the derivation of works for artistic and parody purposes, but with these new laws people and, more importantly, corporations would easily be able to monetize something they have no right to monetize, by claiming they made a half-hearted attempt to contact a person. Most artists are barely scraping by, and are successful if they can pay their rent. This bill would make it incredibly difficult for them to defend their works without constantly filing lawsuits.

Thank you,

Sam Torzewski