I am writing on behalf of myself and the creative community of Minneapolis/St Paul and surrounding suburbs. Sketch artists who have to scrape a living doing caricatures at theme parks all summer, painters who show in one room galleries in North East Minneapolis and hope against hope that they will actually sell something each month, craft fair artists whose work supplements their meager retirement savings, kids who are still in school and can't afford to pay for lunch let alone to copyright their work, college students who have so much debt that they will be paying back the system for decades to come-
I speak for sculptors and Etsy sellers, jewelry makers and children's book illustrators, the poets and budding authors-
all of the vibrant creative community that come through my place of work each day- because I am a shift manager at a well known national art supply store.
After the cost of paints, pens, papers, canvas, clay, etc, and the cost of promoting the art in galleries and magazines, these people make little or no profit at all. They work because they have to- because art is a way of life and a passion that cannot be shaken. Some of them are physically or mentally disabled and literally cannot make a living any other way. Others, like myself, work full time and do artwork during the small amount of free time we have each week.
Personally, I do not make nearly enough money on my art to stop working retail. To have to pay for registry for every piece of art I make or short story I write is simply impossible. I spend my entire paycheck on rent, utilities, and groceries each month. There is nothing left. I have Obamacare for health insurance and I drive a 13 year old car that is literally falling apart because I can't afford to fix it.
To tell me that I must vigilantly troll the entire internet every night to make sure my works aren't being stolen and posted to other websites where your "Good Faith" data miners can then claim it as an orphaned and unattributed work (because it was already stolen from me and my name removed, this is how the internet works) is more than a slap in the face. It is a knife through the heart.

Your organization exists to protect people like me, not to make less paperwork for art thieving companies like Urban Outfitters. They have the money and resources to figure out what is and is not available to them for use and they have the money to buy usage rights from artists. Artists do not have the time or money to fight companies like them in court.

Do you have any concept of how the internet works at all? The odds are already stacked against us and you want to add to that? If someone sits in a movie theater and films the reel to share online it is a criminal act, if someone hacks a video game and puts the content on bit torrent it is a criminal act, if someone steals from a corporation it is a criminal act….

But if someone steals from me, living under the poverty line, making less than cost of living yet still paying my taxes, obeying the law, being a productive member of society with a job and doing art on the side even though I would much rather be a full time artist- that's not a crime at all. That is defended by your new laws as a perfectly legal and acceptable thing to do.

Please reconsider this disgusting proposal. Show that you are human beings too.
Don’t impose this evil on America or the world.