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To whom it may concern:

I recently read about proposed changes to the US Copyright Act, which is troubling. Artists and independent publishers are dependent on income from our published works long after they have been published. I recently released some of my own previously published books, which contain my illustrations, in a new digital format. In order to preserve artist's rights to their own creative and intellectual property, no changes should be made that take any control away from the individual artists' rights to their own work. The public's right to use our work should never take priority over our right to control our creative and intellectual property. We should retain exclusive control of our work, whether or not we choose to register our work with commercial registries. Allowing "unregistered work" to be infringed upon commercially by "good faith" infringers is unthinkable and a violation, even if the intent is to create derivative works; after all, there are Creative Commons licenses available for those who opt to use them to allow derivative works.

Please know that some of the proposed changes would be disastrous to artists and publishers, and act in good faith with the protection of our creative and intellectual property.

Sincerely,

Sudie Rakusin