

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)
Subject: To Improve Copyright Protection
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As an artist building her career I am strongly opposed to the Orphan Works Bill or any legislation that would weaken current copyright laws.

All businesses run on the internet these days and art & design is no exception. I maintain a portfolio website & blog, so that potential clients may view my work. I always run the risk of images being stolen without my permission, but currently I know that if I find one of my works being sold without compensation I have copyright law to back me up. To require artists with thousands of works to submit to databases in order to have that same right intact is not practical and not fair to the original artists.

Saying that only a reasonable search is required before a legalized theft can take place gives the criminals the upper hand.

As the digital world grows we need to establish stronger rules to protect our content, not the opposite. I had heard that orphan works originally was established to allow you to print old wedding photos, and to build library databases, which is fine, but we need to still protect our works from the commercial world, and not give a free pass. If this goes through I'll have to shut down my blog and website. Where's our incentive to keep creating?

If nothing belongs to me how do I make a living?

If the Orphan Works Bill passes it will be time to remove all illustrations, photos of your kids, etc. from the internet or risk them being used in commercial ads with little you can do about it.

I wish the general public realized that it's not just artists who will be hurt, but that their family photos could be used to sell hemorrhoid cream.

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