

**From:** [REDACTED]  
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Several of the organizations I belong to have brought to my attention that the Obama Administration has asked those who create intellectual property to share our thoughts with regards to rights. I am a full time free-lance photographer who depends on the imagery I create to produce an adequate income. Over the past few years, more and more images created by professionals, including mine, are being used without authorization and compensation. The unauthorized use of an artists' intellectual property directly impacts the ability of the artist/creator to control the use of their own creativity and seriously reduces the ability to generate an adequate income from their labor. This also results in an impact to the US economy. Many small businesses, such as mine, employ or contract with others to produce new product and distribute the product.

We need to protect ALL creators, whether they are illustrators, writers, musicians with proper legal protection of their work. Please review our concerns and pass the necessary legislation to protect us and help us stay a viable part of the economic community.

Michele Westmorland

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