Look, I'm not going to beat around the bush and waste our time. This bill that everyone is calling “Orphan” is a bad idea, as a independent artist and a college student, I can't afford to copyright all my work. I need that money to survive and I'm betting there are hundreds, if not thousands of other artists who are in the same situation. They love their art and see it as if it was their own child. Taking away their rights to keep what they love, is just wrong. This is an invasion of our first amendment and a unfair bill that makes it extremely hard for starving artists to keep their work. Instead of punishing starving artists and making it difficult to express themselves, they should be encourage them! They need to do something that would protect the little guy instead of kicking a dog when it's down. Show mercy to the common man instead of stroking the genitals of major corporations. My wish with copyright is the ability for every artist to protect their art without having to pay. The ability to create without fear and the freedom to spend our lives doing what we love. I want a government that encourages me and treasures my thoughts and ideas. Even if I'm not rich and I'm just a girl trying to survive in a scary world. I long for a home that looks at me like I'm more than just another human, like my choices and thoughts truly make a difference. But with the system we have and the rumors I hear, I'm not sure if this dream will come true.

Hannah Ruby