Dear Catherine Rowland (crowland@loc.gov) Senior Advisor to the Register of Copyrights :

Two weeks ago, we were warned that Congress is drafting a new US Copyright Act based in part on the failed Orphan Works Act of 2008. But there are new proposals that go far beyond the damage that the Orphan Works act threatened. The new act would “privatize” copyright registration requiring every artist to spend time and money protecting each individual work from would-be thieves. Any work that isn't registered with the for-profit copyright agency would be fair game for anybody who wants it. This new Copyright Act is set up to effectively facilitate the theft of artist's work and it should NOT become law.

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