July 18, 2015

RE: Orphan Works

To Whom It May Concern:

Our visual art work is our legacy. It is our life. It is our livelihood. When that is at stake we have nothing left to earn our way in the world. For some of us, it is the only thing we know. As an artist, this Orphan Works Bill would be a devastating blow to my income. My volume of work and as it continues to grow, I would be paying you and make no money in return. Surely, we cannot expect to be contributing members to society when all our money is spent on registering all our work, past, present and future. I plead with you to NOT pass this bill. To pass this bill would ultimately destroy the creative visual arts industry in a fail swoop.

Art is my livelihood. I cannot function without it. It is how I pay my bills and keep a roof over my head and food on my table. Please give us rights to our own work that we created rightfully, and which was spent many years in perfecting our craft.

Sincerely:

Erin Diaz