As an artist in the medium of written literature, the proposed law concerning the return of Orphan Works threatens my ability to truly lay claim to any work I create. This law, as written, would void my constitutional right to the exclusive control of my own work, in any artistic medium I choose to pursue.

This law, as written, threatens to pressure small artists to register our work with commercial registries, as in its current form, the law would orphan all unregistered works. Moreover, orphaned works would subsequently be made available for commercial infringement by “good faith” infringers.

For those attempting to make a living off of their artistic medium or mediums, this law threatens their livelihood by promising to make it so that none of what they create belongs to them, and can be snatched up by profiteers or larger corporate entities in order to utilize them without permission or consent. This is an absolutely unacceptable system, and must not be allowed to pass, for the sake of artists across all mediums, in the United States and on a global scale.