I have learned about the newest revision of the Orphan Works Act as “The Next Great Copyright Act”, and while I do understand the desire to revise the general copyright laws, I must beg to differ and dispute the upcoming change, for even though I am a hobbyist artist, I would not welcome my work for their own profit without my knowledge or consent, and I find the importance of the ability to determine how and by whom my work is used to be invaluable. Here are my additional reasons for this.

- This act would act as a total overhaul to all copyright law over anything art related. This will prove far too difficult to handle in a practical manner, and leaves far too many questions unanswered.
- As United States citizens, we have the right to the exclusive control of what we, as the artist, makes. This act will strip us of that right.
- It will allow anyone to use our work, even if we explicitly state that we do not wish for it’s use, without any way to stop them legally.
- It pressures artists, professional or hobbyist, to work with “conglomerate” registries that can use our work as they wish while stripping the professional and career artist of any and (Very likely) all income.
- It would allow personalized works (The work that someone hires a artist to create as the employer desires) to be marketed by a third party, without the owner’s permission or need to pay the original creator.
- This also allows infringers to effectively steal a legitimate artist’s work and claim it as their own with little to no legal efforts to stop them
- This would affect ALL forms of visual art that exist or will exist. This includes but is not limited to : drawings, paintings, sketches, photos, ect.; from the past, present, or the future; published or unpublished; and whether it is domestic or foreign.

You, the Copyright Office, has acknowledged that this will cause special problems for us, but yet you still believe that we should be subjected to this anyway. This is by all means not right, and in addition, violates the 5th amendment by not providing “just compensation” to the writer. In addition, much of the use of the artist work will likely be private, again violating the 5th amendment's saying that the taking of property, or in this case our own work, must be for “public use”.

In addition, this new act proposes 3 additional items into the original Orphaned Works Act, which are…

- The Mass Digitization of our work by corporate interests that we may not even wish to support or get involved with.
- The Extended Collective Licensing, which will replace the voluntary business agreements that we artists rely on for business.
- A copyright Small Claims Court to try to handle the lawsuits expected to result from infringements, which very likely will be inadequate to dealing with the issues that will arise.

Because of the above, I must request that you turn down the Next Great Copyright Act and deny it from going through.