Dear Creators of the Orphan works act,

Stop. Just please, stop what you are doing right now. Do you not realize that you are basically making an A-bomb for the art community? And not just big business art, I mean independent art. Here is the the thing.

Your act basically forces artist who want to be recognized by their art to sign deals with big companies, which isn't as great as it sounds. Not only could an artist be payed less then what they deserve for their work, but the company has say in what they do. The artist wants to make a comic series that challenges modern views, evokes awe, and has stunning visuals with gorgeously designed characters? well too bad! that artist is stuck drawing bat man for the rest of their life because the company says it cost too much to make their comic come to fruition. But what if the artist decides to work on it in their own time and release it by themselves without the company's name on it? Then it becomes an orphan work. where anybody and everybody can take their idea and claim it as their own, so that artist never sees any reward for their work, no money, no recognition, no anything.

And being an Independent Artist this is not only heart breaking, this is ***SOUL CRUSHINGLING AWFUL.*** It is hard enough to get people to even LOOK at my work, and the day my art does become popular, I don't want it to be robbed from me, only for someone to claim it as their own. and when I try to do something about it, I can't. Because of this act. It is like ripping a child from a parent, and saying it is justified because some stranger (who stole the kid in the first place) put a different colored hat

on them. It is just wrong. and much like how that parent loses the years of seeing their child grow. I will lose seeing my work grow, making people happy with it, being able to live a little better with the money I may receive with it. But under this act, It would make me afraid to release anything.That is the other thing that would happen with this act, You would be stifling thousands of artists from ever pursuing their passions. I would still draw, but I would delete every work I ever posted online, and never release anything ever again. So when I die decades from now my family will find books and books or art, comics, and finished books. And when people ask why I never released any of it, I will write in the back of every sketch book, every manuscript, “No one will ever see this because out there, this work will be an orphan.” and I would rather lock up all my work, then let it fall into the hands of people who will twist it and corrupt it and call it their own. And I am not the only one. Thousands of artist will lock away their works or quit the craft all together. So not only will you rob artists of their rights over their work, You will also rob the world of fantastic pieces. The next mona lisa, the next odyssey, the next starry night, the next citizen kane, the next magnum opus of a generation will never have a chance to exist because of this act. And if you can live with yourselves after this catastrophic amount of destruction, sleep at night knowing how many dreams and careers you shattered at the hand of this Act. Then by all means, pass it.

But If you value art, justice, and the dreams and visions of those that will come after us. Then by all means, DO NOT PASS THIS ACT. Do not try to fix that which is not broken. we all deserve our rights, especially artists with what they create.