U.S. Copyright
Orphan Works

Dear U.S. Copyright Office,

I do not support the Orphan Works Bill or any legislation that seeks to strip artists of their legal copyright protection.

I am an Illustrator and Art Director for Blue Chip brands for over 30 years. I hold a BFA from The School of Visual Arts in New York City.

Copyright is the basis on which I do business. Infringing on my work is the same as stealing money out of my pocket.

Copyrights are the products that I license. As well as derivative works in both my Illustration business and my licensing and/or selling of my art.

A large part of a design's value is inherent in the copyright. My clients have included Snapple, Nickelodeon, Whole Foods, among others. I can assure you none of my clients would stand to have the rights to their intellectual property removed.

Copyright protection allows me to license my art on products, certifying that it my work, and prohibiting companies and individuals from stealing and profiting from my work. Copyright protection also keeps my art from appearing on products and sites that I deem inappropriate and damage my reputation.

Everthing I create is part of my business inventory. In the digital age, inventory is more valuable to artists than ever before. The Orphan Works Bill would put my inventory up for grabs so that anyone could claim it as their own and profit from my art.

I do not support someone else monetizing my work without my knowledge or consent.

Sincerely,

Dane LaChiusa, Artist.