Dear Mrs. Rowland,

I have recently heard about your plans to change copyright laws. I might only be a college student, but as an art major I feel it is my right to express how offending is it to us artists and aspiring artists that others can make profit from our work. The changing of the current copyright law is not only an offence to artists, but it also affects the value of our cultural legacy as a community.

If anyone can make profit out of anyone's work, then why not request we take advantage of others' skills and abilities? I think it is highly unfair to the artistic community that their work serves other purposes and generates profit without their permission. Art is the result of talent, skills, time and, most importantly, hard work for which the artist should we rewarded. Rather than allowing and encouraging people to take advantages of artists, you should protect them, as they are a great part of the country's every-growing cutural heritage.

While the digital dimension of our life is becoming more and more important, life as an artist is still hard and full of sacrifices. The online world should be used to share and promote art, rather than becoming a free-for-all zone where work is unfairly stolen from hardworking artists.

To you, copying a digital work might not seem the same as stealing it from a gallery, because it is something that is not physical. Howerver, as an aspiring artist, writer, musician, strong believer in human rights and independant music lover, protection of creators means a lot to me. I will not stand for my words, my art or anything I have created to be used to support a cause I do not believe in. While I like sharing what I make with the world, it does not mean in any way that I am willing to let others take credit and/or make profit from it without my expressed permission.

I hope you can consider giving my words some thoughts, thank you for reading,

Emilie Allard