To whom it may concern,

I have been a professional sculptor for forty-five years, with post graduate work in both art and art history. During that time I have always used copyright protection for my work. I have won numerous awards for my work and my work has been used for presentation purposes for numerous world dignitaries, including the king of Norway, the King and Queen of Spain, and three past Presidents of the U.S.A.

Copyright law has protected my work and to the best of my knowledge my works have never been violated or illegally copied as a result. The current copyright changes up for consideration would be horrendous for myself and all visual artists. We depend on copyright law to protect our work and infringing on our images in any way constitutes theft from ourselves and our families.

The current changes under consideration for Orphan Works Acts constitute the most egregious and fundamental violation of our right to control and decide how our images are used.
Please do not change these laws to allow huge corporations to steal our images. The inventory of our images is our livelihood. In the digital age, inventory of images is more valuable to artists than ever before.

I am utterly opposed to the following:

1.) ***The Mass Digitization*** of our intellectual property by corporate interests.

2.) ***Extended Collective Licensing***, a form of socialized licensing that would replace voluntary business agreements between artists and their clients.

3.) ***A Copyright Small Claims Court*** to handle the flood of lawsuits expected to result from orphan works infringements.

Sincerely, Douglas Downs