Dear United States Copyright Office,

I am a high school student from Nebraska. I will be going into my senior year looking into colleges and career paths for my future. I've been writing as a hobbyist for many years now. As much as I would love to start working professionally, these proposed changes into copyright law will undermine any chance of small timers to make a living. This act will void our Constitutional right to the exclusive control of our work, meaning that I will be pressured to register my own work with commercial registries. Any unregistered work would be considered "Orphaned" so a major company to use my works for commercial purposes for free. They could even claim my work and force me to take it down if they copyright it themselves due to the "Orphaned" status. All artistic fields will become wastelands where only the already successful will prosper.

What happened to America? We were once a land where anyone was welcome to come and take their own shot at living the way they wanted to. You could do whatever you set your mind to with hard work and patience, but now if this passes we will be alienating amateur artists, writers, photographers, etc. This all so the large companies pushing for this can make easy money by doing nothing. They could buy intellectual property that had been "orphaned" in bulk and use it for their own purposes and even tell the creators to take there's down. That isn't freedom of speech or freedom of expression. It's downright tyranny.

I urge you to not pass this bill. It steps all over our constitutional rights for the sake of large corporations, takes away our ownership of our own intellectual property without paying large sums of money, and most of all, it kills any chance at making a living off of being a freelance or low-mid lever worker in any arts industry. Rome wasn't built in a day, but it didn't fall in a day either. It was a slow decay from the inside where greed took more priority than the people.