July 23, 2015

Maria Pallante

Register of Copyrights

US Copyright Office

101 Indeoendence Ave. SE

Washington, DC 20559-6000

Dear Ms. Pallante and the Copyright Office staff,

My name is Erick Reilly and I have recently become aware of a possible new legislation that would drastically alter the way copyright currently works. A legislation that according to my understanding would leave my art works largely unprotected even if I was to register them in the new private registries that were mentioned in the proposal.

While I haven't yet "made it big" as an artist, *I find this proposal deeply disturbing*. Under the current system, as you know, my art is protected by copyright the moment it is created. With this protection, artists like myself have the law on our sides should we find any of our works being used without permission, which on the Internet is quite common.

If this new legislation were to pass, I fear that my fellow artists and I would lose virtually all control of our intellectual properties*; a control that is our Constitutional right*! All over the Internet, artists such as me are in constant danger of having our works taken by unscrupulous characters who would wrongfully use our designs in for their personal gain. In a manner of speaking, *my drawings are my children* and passing this orphan works legislation would be akin to letting anyone kidnap my children and I cannot stand for that.

That is why I ask you now to please, support the artists and *allow us to keep our art works, our assets*. Art is a dream we pursued. Our American dream. We love our craft and we love our works like children. We need to eat and we have bills to pay. Please, *support the artists* and not the lobbyists who have no respect for the hours of work it takes to create a drawing or a painting.

Sincerely,

Erick Reilly