Sir/Madame,

I write to you in regards to a matter that concerns me a great deal, The "Next Great Copyright Act" .

This change in legislation would considerably alter my ability to earn a living, along with hundreds, if not thousands of others.

My name is David Sondered, and I am a freelance illustrator, doing professional work as an illustrator in the fields of concept art, illustrations for the gaming industry, board game illustrations, book covers, editorials and advertising.
I also have my own comic book, together with a New York Times bestselling Author.
I have been an illustrator, successfully supporting my family for more then ten years.

I am a masters graduate, with experience in the field of art and illustration. I have been published in Gaming books from companies like Fantasy Flight Games, Catalyst Game Labs, Games Workshop and the likes.

All of the above means for me to support my family will be swept off the table, if the “Next Great Copyright Act” comes into place.

You see, copyright law is for me not an abstract legal issue, it is the means by which I bring bread to the table, pay rent, and make sure my children can go to school.

Copyrights are the products I license, meaning that infringing on my work is very much the same as stealing my money.

For my business to remain solvent and viable, I need to be able to determine when and how, and by whom, my work is used.
Without this I can no longer earn money.

I cannot stress enough that my work do NOT lose its value upon publication. Everything I create is a part of my business inventory, and is used to generate income, new clients and public interest in my work. My work is both a source of direct income, advertising, and resellable material.

In fact, in today's digital era, my business inventory is more valuable than ever. I am already struggling to keep track of where my work is being used without my permission, where it is shared without a reference, and where it is used to make fraudulent licenses.

Again, I cannot stress how valuable my work is, and how valuable the copyright is to me and my family, as well as any other professional artist out there.

I would like for you to reconsider this act, and strongly urge you to not make it legislation. Many selfsuficient artists of today will end up on the streets, costing taxpayers more money than anyone could ever earn on making my art lose it's copyright the moment it is published.

Sincerely,

David Sondered