Dear Ms. Rowland,

I am writing to you as a professional illustrator concerned about the proposed law that will replace all existing copyright laws. I have been illustrating for 7 years, and I license with companies such as Minted.com, West Elm and Neiman Marcus.

Although the Copyright Office has already realized that these reforms may cause problems for visual artists, they still believe they should be subject to “Orphan Works” laws. The suggested reforms will press for a mass digitalization of my intellectual property, and may replace the voluntary business agreements between clients and artists, such as myself. I rely on copyright laws to protect my work, as well as to guarantee my income as a professional artist.

Freelance and independent artists will suffer if these copyright reforms are made, so I ask that you please reconsider how this will impact visual artists worldwide. The proposed law to replace existing copyright laws should be dismissed because it will decrease the protection artists have when copyrighting their works.

Sincerely,

Erin McManness

Paper Raven Co.