To whom it may concern:

I’m a student artist and am able to see the affect this proposal would have on artists in the long run. It hurts the artists in the freelance realm of the industry since scam artists and others who seek to infringe other’s copyrighted works will want this to pass so that they can continue to steal artwork without being the possibility of being affected by copyright law. By making artwork and other imagery have to be filed under copyright law in order to be protected, instead of the current copyright law where the piece is already potentially copyrighted after the creation of the imagery, makes it harder for artists and other image creators to be able to create and still have their artwork protected.

With this protection, as previously mentioned, it allows artists and creators to benefit financially from their creations. Without this protection, it’s harder for those who have to market their artwork and their skills since others would simply be able to take the imagery which took hours to not only train to make but also the man hours it took to create the actual product. This doesn’t only affect illustrators, but also graphic designers, photographers, the common user of Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Flickr, Twitter, Tumblr, and other media sharing sites.

Instead of creating more creativity, imagery and content for the media, this legislation will make creativity stricter for artists as they [the artists] will try to be protective of their art, in order to make profit from their hard labor. They won’t be more protective through the use of copyrighting their work, as this would take more time and effort to do so despite our already very busy schedules and cost more money due to the fee for copyrighting products. This time would also be sacrificed to fill these forms, which is spending our time that would better be used for work for creating more income through creating imagery. As for this imagery that would be produced and posted online, this gives ANYONE the right to potentially go and find your work and make minimal adjustments and claim it as their own.

And it doesn’t stop at this point, this scam artists can go and sell this adjusted work and make a substantial profit in a matter of a few seconds compared to the creator that spent hours to create that imagery. This is equivalent to the average man having purchased a Porsche, being able to use it for himself for a few years and have good upkeep of it. This man deserves to keep it for himself since he paid for it. What this future legislation would do is make it so this man would be forced to allow the rest of the community to use it freely as they pleased.

My main concern, the reason for this letter, is I will be entering the freelance world in a few short years, and I don’t want to be affected by this legislation as it would affect which clients I receive. If the earlier situation were to become a policy for the country, no one, not even you would agree for this, as it contradicts the human right of freedom of property. This is the same deal. This is our property, and you’re making it near impossible for us to remain owners of our properties. Owners who are able to sell it as we wish and be the sole providers of our work. Providers which have the power and right to sue those who infringe on work we spend hours training for and creating this work.

You won’t allow athletes, actors, lawyers, doctors and singers lose money as they earn their living through hard work. Why should those who spend the same amount of hours if not more suffer these consequences? It doesn’t make sense. If there is any respect for the arts and for hard work, for the American Dream, don’t allow this legislation happen.

Thanks you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Izaak Becker