Re: Orphan Works and Mass Digitization
(FR Doc. 2012-25932; Copyright Office Docket Number 2012-12)

Dear Ms. Pallante:

I endorse the comments submitted to the Copyright Office by the National Writers Union.

As a working writer, I oppose any "orphan works" legislation that permits use of my work without my knowledge or permission merely because someone claims they were unable to identify or locate me or any person or entity that they thought held certain rights to my work. In the age of the Internet, the assertion that a published author cannot be identified or located is utterly bogus. Any such legislation would violate my economic and moral rights.

Before the Copyright Office or Congress considers any "orphan works" legislation, I urge you to hold hearings to learn from writers and other creators about how such a law would affect us. No "orphan works" legislation should be considered unless it respects the rights of creators.

Sincerely,

Dean Hulse
1437 East Gateway Circle S.
Fargo, ND  58103-3617