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U.S. Copyright Office
Library of Congress
Washington DC, USA

Object: Suggestions on new Copyright law

First of all, let's talk about the arduous task of copyright registration. This takes lots of time and money and discourages many artists from protection. Here in France, the copyright law is much more strict, for artists's protection but much easier on registration. Instead of having to prove one's work by sending copies to a library, all work that is produced is automatically copyright protected. No registration is required. The proof of ownership is on the user who tries to reproduce work without permission and not the producer.

The punishment is a sufficient deterrent to abuse, cases can get several thousands of euros as court rewards, so users have to really be careful about what they do, instead of people just trying to get away with anything.

I would hope that the copyright laws will become more protective as they are in France.

Tom Craig,
Photographer