To whom it may concern,

I am a freelance artist as well as a company graphic artist. I've been an artist for the past 9 years and I worked hard to gain my B.F.A. in illustration from Brigham Young University and to look for each job and commission I've had. I value and appreciate the skills I've learned and talent I've cultivated; I am constantly trying to learn more and better my work and knowledge. Copyright law is an important part of what protects me and my work—it is part of what gives it value. My work does not lose value when it's publicized; in fact, some work becomes even more valuable because it's being circulated—and it becomes part of my portfolio and business inventory. If the current copyright laws are changed, it makes it easy for my work to be infringed, and having my art infringed is the same as someone directly stealing money from me. Copyright law is the basis for my business and for all artists and I strongly hold to the Constitutional right to the exclusive control of my own work. It's horrifying to me to think that someone else could make money off my artwork or even to make a derivative piece from my items—I work hard to come up with creative, individual pieces and I do not want someone else making easy money from my hard work. This digital era makes my business inventory more valuable to me and my fellow artists than ever before. Please, do not allow these "orphan works proposals" to pass! Please protect me and all the artists in this country.

Sincerely,

Chantelle Walther