U.S Copyright Office

Re: 2015 ORPHAN WORKS and MASS DIGITATION ACT

How is it possible that proposed legislation with the potential to harm so many people in the creative world go unnoticed until now, the day before the deadline, for these same people to voice their displeasure with it's creation and implementation?

I, personally, have been involved in the creation and publication of various kinds of art for nearly my entire adult life. Even now, years after retiring from the world of Commercial art, I am an active National Watercolor Artist competing and selling my art across the country. The copyright laws protect me and what I do, just as it does for all the people in the creative world. MUSIC, ART, LITERATURE, MEDECINE, COMMERCIAL DESIGN, PUBLISHING ETC.

There is so much wrong with this Orphans Work Proposal it's hard to no where to start. This is not just an abstract legal issue. This is about the creative product of an untold number of individuals who need the protection afforded by the current, effective copyright laws. The primary and founding reason for these regulations was and is to protect the creators work. The work does not lose value after publication (as some have stated), in fact the value often escalates, due to the creator's increased exposure and success.

In closing, let me say that I strongly believe that I should continue to have automatic copyright and sole ownership of my art.

Regards, Charles H. Rouse

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