To the United State's Copyright Office and other concerned parties,

My name is Chenoa Ellinghaus. As a Natural History Illustrator with over three years experience working with museums and institutions, owner of Pals Pals™ (trademark pending) plush toys, and the Paleoartist in Residence at the Morrison Natural History Museum, I am deeply concerned about the designated changes outlined in the 2015 Orphan Works and Mass Digitization Report. As an educator and reconstructor of ancient life, it is vital that visual arts professionals, like myself, provide tangible representations of concepts that are difficult to imagine. I spent over $100,000 to gain a BFA in my field at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, where I graduated with honors. To me, this financial risk is well worth it, for my degree allows me to be the innovator of my own equity and living. I love my work, but I often work more than 80 hours a week as a creative professional. It is disturbing that hard work like this goes unrecognized and unvalued by the same institutions that were created to protect it. My work is more than a product; it is a partnership between the academic world and the creative arts. Under the proposed changes, institutions would not seek out my work in a collaborative sense, but instead will be encouraged to pilfer art that will not fully meet their needs. The value of many unique artworks is that they attract crowds of people to both businesses and institutions. Removing their "one of a kind" nature is not only stealing from artists, such as myself, but from clients who commissioned the piece. Many of my works are also available for licensing due to my possession of the copyright. By removing these rights, I can no longer make a living off of my art. In the last 8 years, innovation amongst artists and designers has improved exponentially due to our unprecedented protection of our work on the Internet. The Internet is a brand-new platform to display my work; clientele that normally would not have known of my illustrations are now repeat buyers and even friends. If the proposed changes occur, to protect my work, I will no longer display it on this platform, nor will many of my colleagues, limiting the choices of our clientele, making the market devoid of healthy competition and innovation.

Sincerely,

Chenoa Ellinghaus