To whom it may concern;

I am writing with great concern for your proposed legislation about considering non-registered works of art as **orphan works** thus rendering common law copyright no longer valid.

I am a painter, writer, illustrator and cartoonist, who has supported myself with my work for more than 35 years. I have both BFA and MFA degrees from universities and have worked at my craft since childhood.

My work is my support. If anyone who can click and drag an image off the internet has the rights to use it (or even register a copyright under their name!) how can I continue to make my living from my work?

The volume of work I produce would be financially crippling to register copyright for every last piece of it. Please do not take away what little protection that I have. Copyright law is not an abstract legal issue for me. It's how I put food on the table, a roof over my head, and pay my ever increasing health care costs.

My work does **not** cease to be of economic value once it is published. Everything I create becomes part of my business inventory. In this digital era, that inventory is more valuable than ever, because it allows me to create income streams from each work I create.

I don't assume that the world will rush to buy my art or support me as an artist, just because I have creative skills that not everyone possesses. I do hope, however, this legislation does not give the right to every other person in the world to steal my work and thus my income.

Please vote no to this ill thought legislation.

Sincerely,
Anne Belov
yourbrainonpandas@gmail.com