To Whom It May Concern:

I am **AGAINST** the Orphan Works Act provision of the proposed Copyright Law. I have been painting in watercolor for ten years now. While I do not make a living selling my art, I would like to do so in the future. As I attempt to build my brand as an artist, I do not want to lose the copyright I retain of my original creations. I enter competitions on-line with the expectation that my right to determine the use of my paintings is mine to control. I hope to be accepted to those shows (and see my work published in exhibition catalogs) as a way to enhance my image. I also participate in on-line galleries (and shows) as a way to get further recognition of my work. Should my paintings be published in a magazine or book, I view it as a way to further enhance my ability to sell. If I cannot count on the copyrights to my paintings, I am uncertain how to move on to the next level as an artist. The registration of each painting (and sketch), or the loss of the copyright, would prove onerous both financially and by creating excessive paperwork. The use by someone else of work without my permission, I find particularly distressing. **PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THE ORPHAN WORKS ACT TO US COPYRIGHT LAW.**

Thank you,

Cheryl Coniglio PWCS BWS