To the Congress and Copyright Office,

I am a young, emerging professional artist. I work in traditional and representation style in oil, acrylic and watercolor. I am blessed in the fact that I love my work and take pride in it. I was able to find a professional field that makes me happy and in which I exceed. However the **New US Copyright Act** really makes me question my place as a professional in our society. It takes away my rights as a creator and only provides safety net to those who are able to afford to protect their work. How can emerging artists at the beginning of their career and in search of a client base ever make a living if they had to pay private sector to register their work to prevent copyright infringement? Under the "**New US Copyright Act**" any artist who doesn't have enough income to protect their work has no safety net, they cannot share their work with public for fear of their work being taken and used for free by some unknown business. It sure sounds great for people who want to use other people's work and not pay a dime. As an artist I share my images on the web to find clients and accumulate potential patrons. Those images are not for other people to use but rather to inspire and share something beautiful with the world. Not for someone seeing it as an easy picking and making profit at my expense. The art that I make with my hands and share with public online is a product that I created; if it had no value why would anyone want to use it? I can't afford to register all my work with private sector, why should I pay money for something I have made? Since "orphaned" art would be available for public use, it means it does have value if someone wants to use it. It is a product and it is valuable. Which means it's a property of its creator and for the creator to determine voluntarily how and by whom the artist's work to be used. Frankly the whole proposal of "**New US Copyright Act**" is a violation of artists' rights, and favors large conglomerates trying to make a loss-free profit at individual's expense. It's very discouraging to me as an artist, art has always had a special place in human history it served to raise the populous spirit and encouraged intellectual growth. The "**New US Copyright Act**" makes me very discouraged as an artist, I question how can I practice my profession, make art and share it with the society if my own government puts such little worth in my professional rights under "**New US Copyright Act"**. I write sincerely and from the bottom of my heart. Artists are a benefit to society and art should thrive, instead of being suppressed and infringed under unfair laws. Even when looking at human history art has always been a symbol of flourishing society. I hope it stays that way and our government will support the individual artists rather than anyone with bulging wallet.

With sincerity and respect, from the visual artist.