To those oncerned with the copyright law,

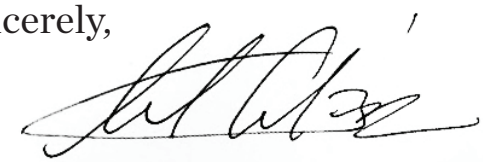
I have learned about the pending changes to copyright law and how this jeopardizes my work as a young illustrator. My name is Andrew Colin Beck — I am an Illustrator from Utah. I do editorial illustrations for top publications like the Boston Globe, Monocle Magazine, Men's Health Magazine, Makeshift Magazine and others.

I am writing to say that this new potential copyright law threatens the livelihood of creative storytellers and visual artists like my self. Being able to retain the rights to, and make decisive moves on who holds the rights to our work is at the heart of the business of an illustrator. The proposed change in copyright law would put serious stress on this vital aspect of our profession.

Essentially the misunderstanding lies in the fact that the proponents of this pending law believe that upon publishing, the work of an illustrator essentially loses value, and then should be open and "up for grabs". This is a viewpoint that, although understandable in some regard, is flawed and confused. I believe, along with my colleagues, that this is an infringement of our constitutional rights regarding intellectual property. This potential change in law really disregards the hard work, and tremulous livelihood of visual and creative professionals. On a deeper level I find the notions of this proposal to be offensive and base in their reduction of the place, power, and import of art in our society.

Along with my brothers and sisters in the field, I add my voice, urging you and other decision makers to dismiss this proposal and not allow this destructive change to erode our creative collective livelyhoods.

Sincerely,



Andrew Colin Beck