To: Members of Congress, the Copyright Office, and other concerned parties

I've been a professional writer for the last thirty years and I'm dismayed by the proposed changes in the current copyright law. Should Orphan Works and Mass Digitalization pass, it will manifestly change the notion of ownership of copyright by wresting it from the hands of creators.

Though this bill doesn't appear to affect writers per se, it does open the door to changes in the copyright of written works as well. But more to the point, the idea of artists losing control of their work, and the monies they would earn through the licensing and republication of same, is anathema to me as it should be to everyone concerned about being compensated for their labor.

In other words, artists deserve control over, and protection for, their work the same as anyone else.

The Orphan Works and Mass Digitalization being considered for adoption would prevent artists from controlling where their work appears and who may use it. Many artists and writers make a living by the long-term use of work via reprints, licensing, and other means of revenue generation based on their work.

My own experience is that reprints and sales to foreign markets generated income long after the initial payment for the work I did. Cyber piracy of books is all too common and artists have it even worse.

Please recognize how unfair this law is and reject it.