Hello,

I am Marcos Calo, a Spanish illustrator working mostly for the north American market.

The reason I am writing to you is to complaint about the new Copyright Act that is about to be passed (mostly about the Orphan Works part). I believe that it is a law made for corporations and contrary to the individual. It is so bad that it seems like something coming out of a science fiction book depicting a dystopian future.

I find hard to believe that the people presenting this Act truly believe they are acting in the public interest. Anyone who has ever created anything would find this Act totally illogical.

This Act is proposing that we have to register every image for commercial use, and if we don't do so we'll loose the rights to them. It is clear that these legislators have never worked as visual artists, because if they had they would know this is an impossible task for anyone. First of all: Visual artists create hundreds of images every year. Many of the images we do are payed less than what it costs to register an image. We also create many images for self promotion, and most of the creators earn so little money that it would be impossible for them to even think of registering them. Does that mean that we'd loose the right to make money out of our creations befor even having the right to it?

Imagine this: you are a cook, you make a meal but you forget to put your name on the dish. Someone comes and steals your dish, then sells it to someone else. Would that be right? Or would you call that someone a THIEF? I guess the second choice is the correct one. That is the way this Act makes a visual artist feel: we are being robbed of our future. We are not rich, believe me, we earn in average far less than many workers; and now we are also going to loose the only thing we have to build a future for ourselves.

I hope there's enough complaint letters to make this people think twice about what they are about to do. They are supposed to look after the people, not after the Money.

Yours sincerely,

Marcos Calo