I’m happy that you are soliciting opinions and real life scenarios in regards to your proposed changes to the copyright law.

My name is Michel Bohbot and I am a former president of the San Francisco Society of Illustrators.
I, like many other Illustrators have a large body of work, especially if you include the sketches I create for various jobs. These pieces of art are the result of thirty odd years in the business and are comparable to a backlog of books or products that can be resold over a lifetime. A great deal of time must be spent to catalogue these pieces and to market them of course. The reality however, is that unless you are one of the few illustrators whose work has a very wide appeal then the funds won’t be enough to stop us needing to find new work. In those circumstances, privatizing the copyright office and forcing creators to register their work with multiple entities will be a financial and logistical nightmare forcing many of us to go out of business. I can’t see how that would benefit our country’s financial health and the incredible dampening of the creative community.

What will happen to the next generation of students who decide not to be creative? Will we lose the video gaming industry, Hollywood films and other creative endeavors that bring huge amounts of capital back to the US. I’m afraid that these posited changes will only benefit a few large entities and are short sighted at best.

Yours,
Michel Bohbot