Dear U.S. Copyright Office,

My name is Lindsey Weingarten and I am NOT in favor of “The Next Great Copyright Act”. From what I understand it would lessen the amount of ownership an artist has over works they have created and would give those rights to those who want to use the artist’s work without paying them. As an artist and someone who has a lot of artist friends, this does not bode well with me. An artist should have 100% ownership over their work unless they sell it to another party or are paid by another party to create the work.

Creating art is a talent that not everyone possesses the creativity and originality to do or something that everyone is willing to put the time and effort in to learn. It’s the basic fundamentals of business! Money is exchanged for goods and services that one can’t procure on their own due to skills or resources.

Creating art for a lot of artists is also something very personal. It’s a form of expression and not every artist wants their art to be used all willy-nilly by people they don’t even know. Not to mention if it’s used for something they should get the royalties included with it assuming they approve of the use. If they don’t approve of the use then it is their decision since it is their art and they should have the right to say “No”.

Please consider the artists when making your decision. Our art means a lot to us and for some of us it is our main source of income as freelance artists. If you take that away then you will be taking away jobs from people just because you don’t want to pay them for their art when they deserve to be paid for their time and effort.

Thank you,

Lindsey Weingarten