To Whom It May Concern,

I have been an artist for over 35 years. I graduated from Agnes Scott College in 1985 with my BA in art.

I am deeply concerned about retaining the right to own my work forever or until I CHOOSE to sign them away. I recently met with a Copyright Attorney and she said we automatically own the rights to the work that we create. However I understand that you are considering a new Copyright Act and that there will be a new Orphaned Works act. Please, please do NOT take away the right of artists to own their work! We give so very much of ourselves and our work to the world…but we should always retain the right to own the images and the royalties for that work which we create. These images of our work that you would throw into the soup of public domain should never belong to everyone unless we decide so.

I ask you to vote NO to this new Copyright Act.

With trust that you will do the right thing for artists of the world,

Thank you,

Laura McRae Hitchcock, artist, 35 years