To the Representatives in Congress:

I am an artist by way of hobby and occasionally trade. I deeply value being able to control the distribution of my work, especially when those works are original and are not derivative. I have spent many years of my life adding to my craft and technique. I also take great pride in my work, and thus that pride is expressed in the form of ownership. The current resurrection of 'orphaned works' stands as a threat to my ownership. Its only purpose is to steal the works of both professional and amateur artists without adequate compensation or, even worse, permission.

That's what this alleged 'update' to copyright law is going to lead to. It will allow larger and more capable publishing houses to justify their confiscation of other people's original ideas and squander the opportunities of potential market disruptors. The creators of Superman, Jerry Siegel and Joe Schuster, learned what it's like to have a large business take away their work (and subsequent earnings) first hand when DC took advantage of their legal-illiteracy. The call to change copyright law to allow the use of 'orphaned works' under alleged 'good intentions' or however else it is preferred to be phrased would allow such abuse on a larger and grander scale.

Please consider the words of this letter, and the letters of hundreds of thousands of other concerned artists and writers when considering these changes to copyright.

Best wishes,

Michael Allen Pearce