To whom it may concern,

As a hobbyist and aspiring artist, as well as a friend of many other hobbyists and professional artists, the details of the 2015 Orphan Works and Mass Digitization Report are alarming to me. We artists spend endless amounts of time, energy, and resources on our craft. To null and void our right to control and copyright our works is absurd to say the least.

I must be able to determine how and by whom my work is used; even as a hobbyist, I have work posted online and I would be disgusted and offended if someone used my work for their own profit without my knowledge and consent. If everyone is allowed the rights to any artwork online, how can artist expect to make a living, have a sense of security, or maintain any professional pride? The public should not be able to use or alter any artist's work without consequence. I cannot fathom a greater insult than others altering my work and copyrighting their "derivative works" as their own.

Refraining from online artwork is not an option in this age. Without an online presence, an artist is irrelevant. From my understanding the Orphan Act is, for all intents and purposes, taking away the rights and destroying the livelihoods of artists. This is in violation of our Constitutional right to the exclusive control of our work. It is absolutely unacceptable. Please do not allow this to pass.

Sincerely,

Linnea Lindstrom