Concerning the pending copyright revision bill...

What I read about this bill is very disturbing and discouraging. I am a visual artist and photographer and my living comes from being able to sell my work. If the large digital stock companies can claim that some work they find on the Internet is “orphaned” and sell it as their own, then I am a victum of robbery as sure as if they walked into my studio and collected what they wanted.

Please do not allow the large and powerful to control the creative art market by changing the traditional way copyright is created. when an artist creates a work, how it is used, or even if it is used, should be the perogative by the artist.

The stock digital companies have no inherent right to use our work.

I don't have time or interest to cattalog my work with commercial registries to protect it. This is like “opting in” where if you don't do it you lose the benefits. This is a coersive concept designed to enable stealing.

Not registering my art would make it "orphaned" and up for grabs anyone.

It would make my orphaned work available for commercial infringement by "good faith" infringers.

It would allow others to alter my work and copyright these "derivative works" in their own names.

These are all concepts are a slop in the face of creative art professionals.

It is impossible for me to grasp why this kind of insane revison to the system we have, which has worked for many artists for may years, is even being discussed.

Please do not put into law any revision that takes the right of ownership away from the creative persons who bring new art into the world.

Marlin Greene / One Earth Images