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7/22/2015
COMMENT ON ORPHANS BILL
by Randy Toroni

Hello,

My name is Randy Toroni. I am a freelance concept artist and Illustrator. Life is hard enough being an artist even when an artist has protection of his or her artistic endeavors. The problem with the orphans bill is that artists have to give our products to the masses just so we can be seen and become known. Having copyright protection right now makes it possible for us to share our skills with society without losing all our hard earned work without people stealing it unlawfully. This bill will make it legal for people to not only use our artwork without our permission but will make it so stealing our work will become much easier and accessible than ever and by the hand of the law we will not be able to protect our work. If our artwork is legal to take if its not been registered to the copyright office then we will be screwed under this law because so many people will just steal our work instead of hiring us to make them new work. It is because our current un-registered work is up on the internet thats viewable and protected by the law that allows us to self promote and bring in customers without our future customers just stealing our work instead of hiring us. Our clients and just about anybody will have the right to just take everything we work so hard to create.

In other words, this bill is a bad deal. It will be a black hole for every creative person monetarily and ruin any chances of our work being protected so we can continue to share and self promote ourselves so we are not taken advantage of.

This bill wants to say that orphand works are important to the public to the point of legalizing them but in the process all American citizens lose the blanket copyright protection that we all rely on. Not only does this hurt the art world but it also hurts every other image maker on the web as well including facebook pictures of just about anybodies private life which is a complete breach of privacy. At least under the current rules we can at least feel like we have a little bit of protection to share images with our friends on the internet without worrying about it being sold off for advertisements on our webpage or used in somebodies god knows what kind of website. I don't like the idea of somebody stealing my art, or pictures of myself or friends, or my life, and just be able to download it and copyright it because I didn't copyright it.

This bill makes no sense in todays world. Everybody shares pictures and it helps to know that there is some kind of protection for everybody. Nobody will like this bill if they actually knew about it. It litteraly is SO BAD that nobody would even think this bill exists or that it is some kind of internet lie that is spreading around as click bait to put a virus on their computer. IT'S THAT BAD. Nobody will want this, I don't know who's stupid idea it was to start it but I am sure it's some big companies idea so they can steal our amazing creative communities intellectual properties and great ideas for their own benefit and not for anybody elses.

Do not pass this bill at all costs. If you want this world to go backwards this bill sure will do it. Nobody likes or will support it besides a few people that can't just go pay an artist to make them something they need instead of just passing a huge legislation that will systematically rip off every creative person or regular person who decides to share a picture on the web. This legislation is all about big business and shitting on the little people.