To whom it may concern,

I'm composing this letter in reference the upcoming changes to Copyright laws called Orphan Works Copyright act. This single action can and will set back individual private creators copyright by years, and potentially lock out legitimate creators to their content because they can't afford to fight larger companies abusing their content.

Currently if an artist has a blog, and publishes their art (in the form of poems, literature, photography, digital drawings/painting) that individual item now has a publish date cataloged by the blog site. This allows the content creator a reference date to fight copyright infringement with even if a big company is trying to take control of something.

With the new Orphan Works act stating all published works are allowed to used by the public and potentially larger production company. Content creators now lose out on contracts for revenue and control rights to whatever they make, so long as any derivative is "different" enough from the source. This can mean a creator who creates a popular webcomic and tries to sell merchandise like shirts, hats, etc, can be shut out if a larger clothing manufacturer decides to make a profit off the webcomic without the creator's input.

A new economic environment is slowly developing and has been developing for the past several years thanks to the internet. Solo artists, and small teams are finally able to publish the content they want and make money from it without having to get a contract with an established publisher. Youtube, Dailymotion, Vimeo allows animators to publisher self-funded animation projects for hobby or with hopes to get recognition to continue moving forward more lucrative projects. The new Orphan Works act will allow bigger companies to take popular indie content and cut out its creator because the work should be available to the public.

Even worse this doesn't just stop at designated art projects, any form of digital and visual expression such as family photos can be used by advertisers for commercials without a families input or payment.

If you don't want to set back the internet by 15 years, please reconsider not enacting this act.

Sincerely, Nicholas Spezio.