To Whom It May Concern,
I am a commercial and fine artist with 35 years experience. I began my career in NYC, where I worked for 17 years before returning to my home state of Idaho.

I am writing to express my great concern regarding the drafting of a brand new US Copyright Act. I am against what is being proposed for the reasons below:

- I am against someone else monetizing my work for their own profit without my consent.
- Artists' copyrights are our products we license.
- It is and should continue to be my right as an artist to determine how and by whom my work is used.
- My work does NOT LOSE VALUE upon publication. It becomes more valuable.
- The new law would "orphan" unregistered work.
- The new law would make orphaned work available for commercial infringement by "good faith" infringers.
- The new law would pressure artist to register their life's work with commercial registries.
- The new law would allow others to alter artist work and copy right those derivative works in their own names.

The move to change copyright law seems to be a ploy by internet firms to be able to supply the public with access to other people's copyrighted work legally without paying artists.

Lobbyists and corporate lawyers have "testified" that once our work has been published it has virtually no further commercial value and should therefore be available for use by the public. <u>This is a false notion and therefore not a valid reason to justify the new copyright act proposed.</u>

As a professional artist, I implore you to stand up for the rights of professional artists by maintaining the copyright law in place.

Sincerely,
Ramona Barger