Dear U. S. Copyright Office,

As an artist (illustrator and author), protecting my work is very important to me. Too often, we artist, are fighting with others who steal or words or images for their own gain. Having copyright protection gives us the leverage and legal means in not allowing others to profit from our work. Often, the work takes years to develop. Allowing the Orphan Works Act to pass Congress will strip us of our legal rights. Many of us will have to close up shop and find another means to be creative, if possible, and to search for another source of income.

A country without artist, is a country without soul.

"Every artist dips his brush in his own soul, and paints his own nature into his pictures." ~ Henry Ward Beecher

Sincerely,
Russ cox