Ryan Salway

505-366-9001 rpdsalway@gmail.com 2165 High Desert Cir NE Rio Rancho NM 87144

July 21st 2015

U.S. Copyright
Orphan Works

Dear U.S. Copyright Office and associated law makers,

It has come to my attention that once again the government of the people and for the people is putting the interests of corporations above the individuals. Why is it that every few years some new law or amendment tries to do something that the people have specifically petitioned against.

I am an artist and a school teacher. I create graphic design work for a large corporation as well as occasionally taking freelance design and art jobs and also doing design work for the school I teach at. I have taken comfort in knowing that if my work is stolen I have legal recourse however the proposed change in orphan work threatens that. Even my lesson plans are currently something which I own as a creative work. My designs and my work are the product of years of training and tens of thousands of dollars in training. Your proposed law would steal that from me, or at very least allow others to steal what I have created. I am fairly new to this business and change to Orphan laws could shut me down before any traction is gained making my education fairly useless to me.

Please reconsider what you are doing to artist like me who make a living based on copyright. It is the product we license, without it protecting our work we make pennies while corporations slap our work on their products robbing us of wages. When I publish my art online it still has value to me and can be resold as prints and licensed by corporations who want to use it but only if it is protected and not considered orphaned. It should not be legal for others monetizing my work without my knowledge or consent.

This should be obvious yet I feel like Arthur Dent from the Douglas Adams book "Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy". Who's house (My business) is about to be torn down because the plans to tear it down had been available for months but they were in a basement with no stairs in a locked cabinet with a sign that read Beware the Leopard. Now to be fair the notice is much easier to find as it is online but it can be hard to understand the legal writing and even online notices are hard to find with so many millions of pages and no one telling you what to look for. Anyways I have begun to ramble, my point is simply that I am against changes to the Orphan works laws.

Sincerely
Ryan Salway