

To whom it may concern:

As an artist, I am nobody. I have only recently begun to market my work. For this reason, I cannot sell my paintings for a large sum of money. I have no name. It has been brought to my attention that Congress is planning to rewrite the copyright laws in such a way that anything I have created would have to be registered for a fee with a private organization, or be subject to piracy with no recourse. Someone else could take my work and sell it or otherwise use it without my permission. This is unreasonable and unjust. As it is, I make far less than minimum wage on my art work. Then add materials, framing, gallery fees, website costs, etc., and you can see that it is already difficult enough to profit from my efforts. Adding another fee to every work of art will only drive prices higher and make it more difficult for an unestablished artist to sell his work. Please recommend that this Orphan Work bill be discarded and leave the copyright laws as they are for artists of all genres.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Elle