

Maria Pallante, Register of Copyrights  
US Copyright Office  
101 Independence Ave, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20559-6000

October 30,2015

Dear Ms Pallante:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to reply to the initial comments submitted to the Visual Arts Notice of Inquiry regarding the Library of Congress Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (Docket No. 2015-01). I am deeply concerned about the potential for my Constitutional rights as an artist to be taken away from me by proposed changes to the copyright law. As a citizen and taxpayer in this country, I feel that the rights to my work should not be easily taken from me by a large coporation that does not want to have to pay to use my images. If I am required to pay large fees to protect my rights as an artist (even an annual fee for each image), the cost would be prohibitive for the survival of my business. The proposed orphan works legislation undermines the copyright laws and makes them invalid, especially for small businesses like mine. If this proposed legislation passes, people would have the right to take my artwork, that sometimes takes me months to produce, for free because they can profit by doing so. This is against my Constitutional rights and just plain wrong. I would think that in this country the citizens should be better protected than in other countries not less by the government.

Sincerely,  
Elayne A. Leighton  
Peleigh3@gmail.com