

Ms. Espinel and the Obama Administration,

ASMP and the Copyright Alliance have informed me of this welcome invitation from the Obama Administration to share my thoughts on my rights as a creator. Intellectual property rights are important part of my business. I am a photographer and I count on intellectual property rights as part of my income and control over where and how my work is shown. If my rights are given up my work will be shown in ways I don't approve and without compensation. I believe this impacts U.S. employment and the economy, and our ability to globally compete. It seems I should hold the copyright to my work just by creating it. Why should someone be able to infringe just because I did not go through the work to register it? That seems like an unnecessary step. Why not keep copyright with the creator unless the creator assigns it to someone else? Also social media sites should not be allowed to have the right to use work that has been uploaded to their site in any way they choose. This should at least be an uncheckable selection in their preferences. Please protect the rights of the creator. I believe this benefits all.

Thanks, John Abernathy Abernathy Photo Minneapolis, MN www.abernathyphoto.com