

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)
Subject: Re: White House Seeks Artists' Comments to Improve Copyright Protection
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 2:40:40 PM

Ms. Victoria Espinel
U.S. Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator

Dear Ms. Espinel:

I'm writing to express my wishes that the government will continue to maintain current copyright protections for artists, and defend them against attacks such as The Orphan Works Act of 2008. I strongly opposed this bill and others like it that would open the door to rampant copyright infringement by commercial interests.

I would like to make it clear that I am not opposed to usage of orphan works by the cultural heritage sector for noncommercial purposes, or use by museums and libraries for preservation and education. But legislation like the Orphan Works Act make no limitations for these purposes, and would dangerously expose my art to infringements while stripping me of any practical means to protect my work.

My creative work is one of the most personal forms of private property that I have because it wouldn't exist without the specific expression that is the result of my outlook and experience. Enactment of orphan works-related changes to copyright law will jeopardize the copyrights of thousands of freelance artists such as me.

I would like to see current copyright law stand, and especially to continue to make it the job of those who wish to use intellectual property to seek permissions from a works' creator. This helps to ensure that I receive payment for the work with which I make my living, and that I have the ability to restrict the use of my art on products which are distasteful to me, or on products competitive with those of my paying clients.

Maintaining current copyright law would also help to prevent a situation where I would be forced to pay registries in order to protect work I've created myself. These proposed registries would violate existing copyright law, which says "[Under current law, works are covered whether or not a copyright notice is attached and whether or not the work is registered.]"

For those and many other reasons, I urge you to maintain current copyright law and, where possible, enact further measures to protect artists' work from infringement.

Most sincerely,

Erica Beade
Illustrator
Watertown, MA

Erica Beade
MBC Graphics
www.mbcgraphics.com
617-924-1769