

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)
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I make my living through licensing usage rights of my illustrations. Copyright also allows me to earn a living by protecting my creations (my intellectual property) from infringement. In particular, its comprehensive protection currently shifts the burden of proof on the infringer. If the burden were on the creator, or if copyright protection were lightened, it would slowly cease to be economically feasible for me, as a small business, to pursue infringement against entities with vast financial resources, let alone earn a living. In the age of internet, it would also be much more difficult to police the use of my work.

It is important for the U.S. government to continue protecting and placing priority with the creator of the work. Make sure he or she has as much of a voice in legislation as larger conglomerates that might have an ulterior financial gain for acquiring the work or seeing the work fall into a pool of orphan works or the public domain. It's also important for visual art to be seen as its own entity and not lumped together with other forms of art whose creators may not have the same needs or intents, particularly in the example of recent proposed orphan works legislation.

Thank you.