

A major problem with copyright Rules & Regulations is that like so many government rules & regulations is their length. They are difficult to understand and difficult to licence. At times they exceed reasonable periods of protection.

A length of 25 years or the life of the creator, which ever is longer, should be the rule. There are too many legitimate creations that can be viewed as similar, derivative, etc. that can be inhibited in their development by the now lengthy protection of copyright.

Creators have a responsibility to attach Copyright notice to their work. Initial claims of copyright could be sent to a government web site. The only function of the web site would be to "register" a claim to copyright. Registering there does not, in itself, grant copyright.

If the originator seeks copyright protection, registration with the Copyright Office should occur within 60 days of publication, and require a reasonable fee.

Infringement can be determined in most, if not all cases, by simple means. Large electronic storage capability of data plus rapid search and retrieval systems make this possible.

Some material should be declared in the or of the Public Domain. For example, the recent law suits over Harry Potter books. Stores of wizards have existed for centuries. Infringement would require demonstration a large percentage of "word for word" duplication.

Appropriate fair use for education should exist.

I trust these thoughts are useful.

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