

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)
Subject: Intellectual Property and Risks to the Public
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 1:04:46 PM

To whom it may concern,
I am an image maker and photographer who creates work for licensing in various forms of media. In the passed several years my industry has experienced unprecedented changes in the way we produce and deliver our work to our clients and the public. By having images and digital media so easily accessible and duplicated the internet has reduced the perceived value of all forms of intellectual property. A general notion pervades public opinion that if it is on the internet it is free for the taking. With the internet at the heart of most written communications and distribution of digital media it is imperative that mechanisms be put into place to protect the copyrighted property distributed through these new channels.

There is a consistent push from companies and corporations to revise copyright laws to more favor users of intellectual property so they can profit freely from the works created by others. Legislation such as softening Orphan Works protections is often backed by such groups. As mentioned before, the ease of acuision of this digitized property has caused a lack of respect for the work of creators and greatly diminished the economic value of that work. This along with the current economy has reduced my income to a fraction of what it was a few years ago. The reduced income will negatively effect the finical health of the country by lowering the tax base for creatives in general. With our country moving more away from a manufacturing based economy the intellectual property income stream must be protected to keep our country economically and culturally strong.

I have a few suggestions to help creators fight for their rights and maintain the incentive to produce more work that was given by current copyright laws.

- Create a searchable registry that links in some way to the intellectual property that is distributed on electronically. The current systems at the copyright office do not address the current state of how works are distributed and is difficult to find a creator even if there is notification of copyright.
- The general public needs to be educated about intellectual property and ownership rights contained in copyrighted works so that they understand the etiquette in regards to copying and distributing works.
- New legislative guidelines for fair use to more clearly define the rights of users of copyrighted materials.

Creators need all the help that this administration can give to help us maintain our livelihoods and continue to contribute meaningful works to our society.

Thank you for looking at this issue that affects so many of our citizens.

Regards,
Paul Morris

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