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Article 13

The Kennedy Bill

Appendix

Senate Bill S. 1198 - *The Kennedy Bill*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Sec. 1. *Short Title*

This Act may be cited as the "Visual Artists Rights Act of 1989".

Sec. 2. *Work of Visual Art Defined*

Section 101 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the paragraph defining "widow" the following:

"A 'work of visual art' is a painting, drawing, print, sculpture, or still photographic image produced for exhibition purposes only, existing in a single copy, in a limited edition of 200 copies or fewer, or, in the case of a sculpture, in multiple cast sculptures of 200 or fewer. A work of visual art does not include—

"(1) any version that has been reproduced in other than such limited edition prints or cast sculptures;

"(2)(A) any poster, map, globe, chart, technical drawing, diagram, model, applied art, motion picture or other audio visual work, book, magazine, periodical, or similar publication;

"(B) any merchandising item or advertising, promotional, descriptive, covering, or packaging material or container;

"(C) any portion or part of any item described in subparagraph (A) or (B);

"(3) any work made for hire;

"(4) any reproduction, depiction, portrayal, or other use of a work in, upon, or in any connection with any item described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3); or

"(5) any work not subject to copyright protection under section 102 of this title".

Sec. 3. *Rights of Attribution and Integrity*

"(a) Rights of Attribution and Integrity—Chapter 1 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 106 the following new section:

"§ 106 A. Rights of certain authors to attribution and integrity.

"(a) Rights of Attribution and Integrity—Subject to section 107 and independent of the exclusive rights provided in section 106, the

author of a work of visual art -

“(1) shall have the right -

“(A) to claim authorship of that work, and

(B) to prevent the use of his or her name as the author of any work of visual art which he or she did not create;

“(2) shall have the right to prevent the use of his or her name as the author of the work of visual art in the event of a distortion, mutilation, or other modification of the work as described in paragraph (3); and

“(3) subject to the limitations set forth in section 113(d), shall have the right—

“(A) to prevent any distortion, mutilation, or other modification of that work which would be prejudicial to his or her honor or reputation, and any intentional or grossly negligent distortion, mutilation, or modification of that work is a violation of that right, and

“(B) to prevent any destruction of a work of recognized stature, and any intentional or grossly negligent destruction of that work is a violation of that right.

In determining whether a work is of recognized stature, a court or other trier of fact may take into account the opinions of artists, art dealers, collectors of fine art, curators of art museums, conservators of recognized stature, and other persons involved with the creation, appreciation, history, or marketing of works of recognized stature. Evidence of commercial exploitation of a work as a whole, or of particular copies, does not preclude a finding that the work is a work of recognized stature.

(b) Scope and Exercise—The author of a work of visual art has the rights conferred by subsection (a), whether or not the author is the copyright owner, and whether or not the work qualifies for protection under section 104. Where the author is not the copyright owner, only the author shall have the right during his or her lifetime to exercise the rights set forth in subsection (a).

“(c) Exceptions—(1) The modification of a work of visual art which is a result of the passage of time or the inherent nature of the materials is not a destruction, distortion, mutilation, or other modification described in subsection (a)(3) unless the modification was the result of gross negligence in maintaining or protecting the work.”

“(2) The modification of a work of visual art which is the result of conservation is not a destruction, distortion, mutilation, or other modification described in subsection (a)(3) unless the modification is caused by gross negligence.”

“(d) Duration of Rights—(1) With respect to works of visual art created on or after the effective date set forth in section 10(a) of the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1989, the rights conferred by subsection (a) shall endure for a term consisting of the life of the author and fifty years after the author’s death.

“(2) With respect to works of visual art created before the effective date set forth in section 10(a) of the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1989, but not published before such effective date, the rights conferred by subsection (a) shall be coextensive with, and shall expire at the same time as, the rights conferred by section 106.

“(3) All terms of the rights conferred by subsection (a) run to the end of the calendar year in which they would otherwise expire.

“(e) Transfer and Waiver—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the rights conferred by subsection (a) may not be waived or otherwise transferred.

“(2) After the death of an author, the rights conferred by subsection (a) on the author may be exercised by the person to whom such rights pass by bequest of the author or by the applicable laws of intestate succession.

“(3) Ownership of the rights conferred by subsection (a) with respect to a work of visual art is distinct from ownership of any fixation of that work, or of a copyright or any exclusive right under a copyright in that work.”

(b) Conforming Amendment—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 1 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 106 the following new item: “106A. Rights of certain authors to attribution and integrity.”

Sec. 4. *Removal of Works of Visual Art from Buildings.*

Section 113 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

“(d)(1)(A) Where—

“(i) a work of visual art has been incorporated in or made part of a building in such a way that removing the work from the building will cause the destruction, distortion, mutilation, or other modification of the work as described in section 106(A)(3), and

“(ii) the author or, if the author is deceased, the person described in section 106A(e)(2), consented to the installation of the work in the building in a written instrument signed by the owner of the building and the author or such person,

then the rights conferred by paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 106A(a) shall not apply, except as may otherwise be agreed in a written instru-

ment signed by such owner and the author or such person.

“(B) An agreement described in subparagraph (A) that the rights conferred by paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 106(A) shall apply shall not be binding on any subsequent owner of the building except where such subsequent owner had actual notice of the agreement or where the instrument evidencing the agreeing was properly recorded, before the transfer of the building to the subsequent owner, in the applicable State real property registry for such building.

“(2) If the owner of a building wishes to remove a work of visual art which is a part of such building and which can be removed from the building without the destruction, distortion, mutilation, or other modification of the work as described in section 106A(a)(3), the author’s rights under paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 106A(a) shall apply unless—

“(A) the owner has made a diligent, good faith attempt without success to notify the author or, if the author is deceased, the person described in section 106A(e)(2), of the owner’s intended action affecting the work of visual art,

“(B) the owner did provide such notice by registered mail and the person so notified failed, within 90 days after receiving such notice, either to remove the work or to pay for its removal.

If the work is removed at the expense of the author or the person described in section 106A(e)(2), title to that fixation of the work shall be deemed to be in the author or such person, as the case may be. For purposes of subparagraph (A), an owner shall be presumed to have made a diligent, good faith attempt to send notice if the owner sent such notice by registered mail to the last known address of the author or, if the author is deceased, to the person described in section 106A(e)(2).

“(3) The Register of Copyrights shall establish a system of records whereby any author of a work of visual art that has been incorporated in or made part of a building, or persons described in section 106A(e)(2) with respect to that work, may record their identities and addresses with the Copyright Office. The Register shall also establish procedures under which such authors or persons may update the information so recorded, and procedures under which owners of building may record with the Copyright Office evidence of their efforts to comply with this subsection.”

Sec. 5. Preemption

Section 301 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f)(1) On or after the effective date set forth in section 10(a) of the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1989, all legal or equitable rights that are equivalent to any of the rights conferred by section 106A with respect to works of visual art to which the rights conferred by section 106A apply are governed exclusively by section 106A and section 113(d) and the provisions of this title relating to such sections. Thereafter, no person is entitled to any such right or equivalent right in any work of visual art under the common law or statutes of any State.

“(2) Nothing in paragraph (1) annuls or limits any rights or remedies under the common law or statutes of any State with respect to—

“(A) any cause of action from undertakings commenced before the effective date set forth in section 10(a) of the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1989; or

“(B) activities violating legal or equitable rights that are not equivalent to any of the rights conferred by section 106A with respect to works of visual art.”

Sec. 6. *Infringement Actions*

“(a) IN GENERAL—Section 501(a) of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting after “118” the following: “or of the author as provided in section 106A(a)”; and

(2) by striking out “copyright” and inserting in lieu thereof “copyright or right of the author, as the case may be. For purposes of this chapter (other than section 506), any reference to copyright shall be deemed to include the rights conferred by section 106A(a).”

(b) Exclusion of Criminal Penalties—Section 506 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

“(f) Rights of Attribution and Integrity—Nothing in this section applies to infringement of the rights conferred by section 106A(a).”

(c) Registration not a Prerequisite to Certain Remedies—(1) Section 411(a) of title 17, United States Code, is amended in the first sentence by inserting after “United States” the following: “and an action brought for a violation of the rights of the author under section 106A(a).”

(2) Section 412 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by inserting “an action brought for a violation of the rights of the author under section 106A(a) or after “other than”.

Sec. 7. *Statute of Limitations*

Section 507(b) of title 17, United States Code, is amended by ad-

ding at the end the following: "For purposes of an action brought for infringement of the rights under section 106A(a) of an author of a work of visual art, the claim accrues when the author (or person described in section 106A(e)(2), as the case may be) knew or should have known of the violation of the author's rights under section 106A(a)."

Sec. 8. *Fair Use*

Section 107 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by striking out "section 106" and inserting in lieu thereof "sections 106 and 106A.:

Sec. 9. *Study on Resale Royalties*

(a) In General—The Register of Copyrights, in consultation with the Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, shall conduct a study on the feasibility of implementing -

(1) a requirement that, after the first sale of a work of art, a royalty on any resale of the work, consisting of a percentage of the price, be paid to the author of the work; and

(2) other possible requirements that would achieve the objective of allowing an author of a work of art to share monetarily in the enhanced value of that work.

(b) Groups to be Consulted—The study under subsection (a) shall be conducted in consultation with other appropriate departments and agencies of the United States, foreign governments, and groups involved in the creation, exhibition, dissemination, and preservation of works of art, including artists, art dealers, collectors of fine art, and curators of art museums.

(c) Report to Congress—Not later than 28 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Register of Copyrights shall submit to the Congress a report containing the results of the study conducted under this section, and any recommendations that the Register may have as a result of the study.

Sec. 10. *Effective Date*

(a) In General—Subject to subsection (b) and except as provided in subsection (c), this Act and the amendments made by this Act take effect 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) Applicability—The rights created by section 106A of title 17, United States Code, shall apply to works created but not published before the effective date set forth in subsection (a), and to works created on or after such effective date, but shall not apply to any destruction, distortion, mutilation, or other modification (as described in sec-

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tion 106A(a)(3) of such title) of any work which occurred before such effective date.

(c) Section 9—Section 9 takes effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.