

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 523

Approved August 12, 1983

WHEREAS, Providence has many artists and designers, is in a unique position to protect cultural innovators and has a tradition of nurturing the arts, and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Constitution provides Congress with the authority to enact laws to encourage and protect creators, and

WHEREAS, The 1976 Copyright Law was designed to protect the inherent rights of creators, by creating rights inherently vested with the creator, who is defined as the translator of abstract ideas into tangible form, and

WHEREAS, This subdivisible group of rights is the basis of all transactions between the seller and the purchaser, allowing artists to claim authorship for the work they create, building their reputations and ability to attract clients on the basis of past performance, and

WHEREAS, The Graphic Artists Guild, leading a coalition of over 40,000 professional artists, photographers, song writers, journalists, translators, authors and other creative professionals has raised an outcry nationwide against the "work-for-hire" provision of this law which denies those who do artwork on commission the rights to their art,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council calls upon the U.S. Congress to act immediately to remedy this breach of justice by amending the Copyright Law to remove the work-for-hire provision and ensure that artists' rights and survival shall no longer be threatened by the law designed to protect them, and

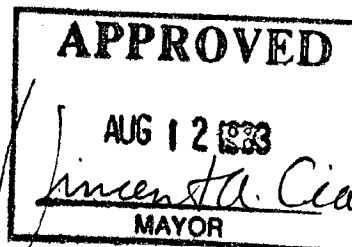
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Resolution be sent to each member of the Rhode Island Congressional delegation with a request that each of them support said requested action by the U.S. Congress.

IN CITY COUNCIL

AUG 4 1983

READ AND PASSED

[Signature]
Rose M. Mendenhall CLERK



August 18, 1983

Honorable Claudine Schneider
30 Ralfe Street
Cranston, RI 02910

Dear Congresswoman Schneider,

Enclosed is certified copy of Resolution No. 523,
approved August 12, 1983, the same being self explanatory.

Councilman Malcolm Farmer, is sponsor of said Resolution.

Very truly yours,

Rose M. Mendonca,
City Clerk.

RMM/jma
Enclosure

August 18, 1983

Honorable Clairborne DeB. Pell
418 Federal Building
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Senator Pell,

Enclosed is certified copy of Resolution No. 523,
approved August 12, 1983, the same being self-explanatory.

Councilman Malcolm Farmer is sponsor of said Resolution.

Very truly yours,

Rose M. Mendonca,
City Clerk.

RMM/jma
Enclosure

August 18, 1983

Honorable John H. Chafee
301 Post Office Annex
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Senator Chafee,

Enclosed is certified copy of Resolution No. 523,
approved August 12, 1983, the same being self-explanatory.

Councilman Malcolm Farmer is sponsor of said resolution.

Very truly yours,

Rose M. Mendonca,
City Clerk.

RMM/jma
Enclosure

August 18, 1983

Honorable Fernand J. St. Germain
204 John E. Fogarty Federal Building
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Congressman St. Germain,

Enclosed is certified copy of Resolution No. 523,
approved August 12, 1983, the same being self explanatory.

Councilman Malcolm Farmer, is sponsor of said Resolution.

Very truly yours,

Rose M. Mendonca,
City Clerk.

RMM/jma
Enclosure

FERNAND J. ST GERMAIN
1ST DISTRICT, RHODE ISLAND

2108 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
TEL.: 202-225-4911

204 JOHN E. FOGARTY BUILDING
PROVIDENCE, R.I. 02903
TEL.: 401-528-4323

R.I. TOLL FREE TELEPHONE
1-800-662-5110

CHAIRMAN,
BANKING, FINANCE AND
URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS SUPERVISION,
REGULATION AND INSURANCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 30, 1983

Ms. Rose M. Mendonca
City Clerk
City Hall
Providence, Rhode Island

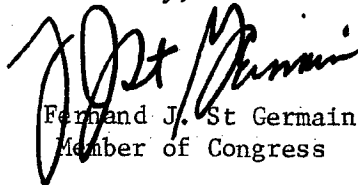
Dear Ms. Mendonca:

Thank you for writing on behalf of the Providence City Council to send me a copy of Councilman Farmer's resolution pertaining to copyright law.

At this time, there is no legislation pending in the House which addresses the "work for hire" provisions of the 1976 Copyright Act. The House Judiciary Committee, however, is aware of the problems raised by these provisions which require artists to cede their copyright rights on commissioned works, and the issue may be considered in future hearings on the Copyright Act. Should legislation to repeal the "work for hire" provisions be introduced and brought to the House floor for a vote, you can be sure I will remember your concerns.

I appreciate hearing from you and hope you will continue to advise me of the Council's concerns.

Sincerely,



Fernand J. St Germain
Member of Congress

FJStG:cp