NOGAO

PUBLIC LAW 102-307—JUNE 26, 1992

COPYRIGHT AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1992

Public Law 102-307
102d Congress

An Act

June 26, 1992
[S. 756]

To amend title 17, United States Code, the copyright renewal provisions, and for other purposes.

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

Copyright Amendments Act of 1992.
17 USC 101 note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Copyright Amendments Act of 1992".

TITLE I—RENEWAL OF COPYRIGHT

Copyright Renewal Act of 1992.
17 USC 101 note.

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be referred to as the "Copyright Renewal Act of 1992".

SEC. 102. COPYRIGHT RENEWAL PROVISIONS.

(a) DURATION OF COPYRIGHT: SUBSISTING COPYRIGHTS.—Section 304(a) of title 17, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(a) COPYRIGHTS IN THEIR FIRST TERM ON JANUARY 1, 1978.—(1)(A) Any copyright, the first term of which is subsisting on January 1, 1978, shall endure for 28 years from the date it was originally secured.

"(B) In the case of—

"(i) any posthumous work or of any periodical, cyclopedic, or other composite work upon which the copyright was originally secured by the proprietor thereof, or

"(ii) any work copyrighted by a corporate body (otherwise than as assignee or licensee of the individual author) or by an employer for whom such work is made for hire,

the proprietor of such copyright shall be entitled to a renewal and extension of the copyright in such work for the further term of 47 years.

"(C) In the case of any other copyrighted work, including a contribution by an individual author to a periodical or to a cyclopedic or other composite work—

"(i) the author of such work, if the author is still living,

"(ii) the widow, widower, or children of the author, if the author is not living,

"(iii) the author's executors, if such author, widow, widower, or children are not living, or

"(iv) the author's next of kin, in the absence of a will of the author,

shall be entitled to a renewal and extension of the copyright in such work for a further term of 47 years.

"(2)(A) At the expiration of the original term of copyright in a work specified in paragraph (1)(B) of this subsection, the copyright

all endure for a renewed and extended further term of 47 years, ıich—

"(i) if an application to register a claim to such further term has been made to the Copyright Office within 1 year before the expiration of the original term of copyright, and the claim is registered, shall vest, upon the beginning of such further term, in the proprietor of the copyright who is entitled to claim the renewal of copyright at the time the application is made; or

"(ii) if no such application is made or the claim pursuant to such application is not registered, shall vest, upon the beginning of such further term, in the person or entity that was the proprietor of the copyright as of the last day of the original term of copyright.

'(B) At the expiration of the original term of copyright in a ›rk specified in paragraph (1)(C) of this subsection, the copyright all endure for a renewed and extended further term of 47 years, ıich—

"(i) if an application to register a claim to such further term has been made to the Copyright Office within 1 year before the expiration of the original term of copyright, and the claim is registered, shall vest, upon the beginning of such further term, in any person who is entitled under paragraph (1)(C) to the renewal and extension of the copyright at the time the application is made; or

"(ii) if no such application is made or the claim pursuant to such application is not registered, shall vest, upon the beginning of such further term, in any person entitled under paragraph (1)(C), as of the last day of the original term of copyright, to the renewal and extension of the copyright.

"(3)(A) An application to register a claim to the renewed and tended term of copyright in a work may be made to the Copyright fice—

"(i) within 1 year before the expiration of the original term of copyright by any person entitled under paragraph (1) (B) or (C) to such further term of 47 years; and

"(ii) at any time during the renewed and extended term by any person in whom such further term vested, under paragraph (2) (A) or (B), or by any successor or assign of such person, if the application is made in the name of such person.

"(B) Such an application is not a condition of the renewal and tension of the copyright in a work for a further term of 47 ars.

"(4)(A) If an application to register a claim to the renewed and tended term of copyright in a work is not made within 1 year fore the expiration of the original term of copyright in a work, if the claim pursuant to such application is not registered, en a derivative work prepared under authority of a grant of transfer or license of the copyright that is made before the piration of the original term of copyright may continue to be ed under the terms of the grant during the renewed and extended rm of copyright without infringing the copyright, except that ıch use does not extend to the preparation during such renewed ıd extended term of other derivative works based upon the copyghted work covered by such grant.

"(B) If an application to register a claim to the renewed and tended term of copyright in a work is made within 1 year before

its expiration, and the claim is registered, the certificate of such registration shall constitute prima facie evidence as to the validity of the copyright during its renewed and extended term and of the facts stated in the certificate. The evidentiary weight to be accorded the certificates of a registration of a renewed and extended term of copyright made after the end of that 1-year period shall be within the discretion of the court.".

(b) REGISTRATION.—(1) Section 409 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"If an application is submitted for the renewed and extended term provided for in section 304(a)(3)(A) and an original term registration has not been made, the Register may request information with respect to the existence, ownership, or duration of the copyright for the original term.".

(2) Section 101 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the definition of "publication" the following:

"Registration", for purposes of sections 205(c)(2), 405, 406, 410(d), 411, 412, and 506(e), means a registration of a claim in the original or the renewed and extended term of copyright.".

17 USC 304 note.

(c) LEGAL EFFECT OF RENEWAL OF COPYRIGHT UNCHANGED.—The renewal and extension of a copyright for a further term of 47 years provided for under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 304(a) of title 17, United States Code (as amended by subsection (a) of this section) shall have the same effect with respect to any grant, before the effective date of this section, of a transfer or license of the further term as did the renewal of a copyright before the effective date of this section under the law in effect at the time of such grant.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 304(c) of title 17, United States Code, is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by striking "second proviso of subsection (a)" and inserting "subsection (a)(1)(C)".

(e) REGISTRATION PERMISSIVE.—Section 408(a) of title 17, United States Code, is amended by striking "At" and all that follows through "unpublished work," and inserting "At any time during the subsistence of the first term of copyright in any published or unpublished work in which the copyright was secured before January 1, 1978, and during the subsistence of any copyright secured on or after that date,".

(f) COPYRIGHT OFFICE FEES.—Section 708(a)(2) of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "in its first term"; and

(2) by striking "$12" and inserting "$20".

17 USC 101 note.

(g) EFFECTIVE DATE; COPYRIGHTS AFFECTED BY AMENDMENT.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), this section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) The amendments made by this section shall apply only to those copyrights secured between January 1, 1964, and December 31, 1977. Copyrights secured before January 1, 1964, shall be governed by the provisions of section 304(a) of title 17, United States Code, as in effect on the day before the effective date of this section.

(3) This section and the amendments made by this section shall not affect any court proceedings pending on the effective date of this section.

TITLE II—NATIONAL FILM PRESERVATION

National Film Preservation Act of 1992. Arts and humanities. 2 USC 179 note.

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "National Film Preservation Act of 1992".

SEC. 202. NATIONAL FILM REGISTRY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Establishment. 2 USC 179.

The Librarian of Congress (hereinafter in this title referred to as the "Librarian") shall establish a National Film Registry pursuant to the provisions of this title, for the purpose of maintaining and preserving films that are culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant.

SEC. 203. DUTIES OF THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS.

2 USC 179a.

(a) STUDY OF FILM PRESERVATION.—(1) The Librarian shall, after consultation with the Board established pursuant to section 204, conduct a study on the current state of film preservation and restoration activities, including the activities of the Library of Congress and the other major film archives in the United States. The Librarian shall, in conducting the study—

(A) take into account the objectives of the national film preservation program set forth in clauses (i) through (iii) of subsection (b)(1)(A); and

(B) consult with film archivists, educators and historians, copyright owners, film industry representatives, including those involved in the preservation of film, and others involved in activities related to film preservation.

The study shall include an examination of the concerns of private organizations and individuals involved in the collection and use of abandoned films such as training, educational, and other historically important films.

(2) Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Librarian shall submit to the Congress a report containing the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1).

Reports.

(b) POWERS.—(1) The Librarian shall, after consultation with the Board, do the following:

(A) After completion of the study required by subsection (a), the Librarian shall, taking into account the results of the study, establish a comprehensive national film preservation program for motion pictures, in conjunction with other film archivists and copyright owners. The objectives of such a program shall include—

(i) coordinating activities to assure that efforts of archivists and copyright owners, and others in the public and private sector, are effective and complementary;

(ii) generating public awareness of and support for those activities; and

(iii) increasing accessibility of films for educational purposes, and improving nationwide activities in the preservation of works in other media such as videotape.

(B) The Librarian shall establish guidelines and procedures under which films may be included in the National Film Registry, except that no film shall be eligible for inclusion in the National Film Registry until 10 years after such film's first publication.

(C) The Librarian shall establish procedures under which the general public may make recommendations to the Board regarding the inclusion of films in the National Film Registry.

(D) The Librarian shall establish procedures for the examination by the Librarian of prints of films named for inclusion in the National Film Registry to determine their eligibility for the use of the seal of the National Film Registry under paragraph (3).

(E) The Librarian shall determine which films satisfy the criteria established under subparagraph (B) and qualify for inclusion in the National Film Registry, except that the Librarian shall not select more than 25 films each year for inclusion in the Registry.

Federal Register, publication.

(2) The Librarian shall publish in the Federal Register the name of each film that is selected for inclusion in the National Film Registry.

(3) The Librarian shall provide a seal to indicate that a film has been included in the National Film Registry and is the Registry version of that film.

Federal Register, publication.

(4) The Librarian shall publish in the Federal Register the criteria used to determine the Registry version of a film.

Reports.

(5) The Librarian shall submit to the Congress a report, not less than once every two years, listing films included in the National Film Registry and describing the activities of the Board.

(c) SEAL.—The seal provided under subsection (b)(3) may be used on any copy of the Registry version of a film. Such seal may be used only after the Librarian has examined and approved the print from which the copy was made. In the case of copyrighted works, only the copyright owner or an authorized licensee of the copyright may place or authorize the placement of the seal on a copy of a film selected for inclusion in the National Film Registry, and the Librarian may place the seal on any print or copy of the film that is maintained in the National Film Registry Collection of the Library of Congress. The person authorized to place the seal on a copy of a film selected for inclusion in the National Film Registry may accompany such seal with the following language: "This film is included in the National Film Registry, which is maintained by the Library of Congress, and was preserved under the National Film Preservation Act of 1992.".

(d) DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDS.—The Librarian shall develop standards or guidelines by which to assess the preservation or restoration of films that will qualify films for use of the seal under this section.

Establishment.
2 USC 179b.

SEC. 204. NATIONAL FILM PRESERVATION BOARD.

(a) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—(1) The Librarian shall establish in the Library of Congress a National Film Preservation Board to be comprised of up to 18 members, who shall be selected by the Librarian in accordance with the provisions of this section. Subject to subparagraphs (C) and (O), the Librarian shall request each organization listed in subparagraphs (A) through (P) to submit to the Librarian a list of not less than 3 candidates qualified to serve as a member of the Board. Except for the members-at-large appointed under paragraph (2), the Librarian shall appoint 1 member from each such list submitted by such organizations, and shall designate from that list an alternate who may attend

those meetings to which the individual appointed to the Board cannot attend. The organizations are the following:

(A) The Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences.

(B) The Directors Guild of America.

(C) The Writers Guild of America. The Writers Guild of America East and the Writers Guild of America West shall each nominate not less than 3 candidates, and a representative from 1 such organization shall be selected as the member and a representative from the other such organization as the alternate.

(D) The National Society of Film Critics.

(E) The Society for Cinema Studies.

(F) The American Film Institute.

(G) The Department of Theatre, Film and Television of the College of Fine Arts at the University of California, Los Angeles.

(H) The Department of Film and Television of the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University.

(I) The University Film and Video Association.

(J) The Motion Picture Association of America.

(K) The National Association of Broadcasters.

(L) The Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers.

(M) The Screen Actors Guild of America.

(N) The National Association of Theater Owners.

(O) The American Society of Cinematographers and the International Photographers Guild, which shall jointly submit 1 list of candidates from which a member and alternate will be selected.

(P) The United States members of the International Federation of Film Archives.

(2) In addition to the Members appointed under paragraph (1), the Librarian shall appoint up to 2 members-at-large. The Librarian shall select the at-large members from names submitted by organizations in the film industry, creative artists, producers, film critics, film preservation organizations, academic institutions with film study programs, and others with knowledge of copyright law and of the importance, use, and dissemination of films. The Librarian shall, in selecting 1 such member-at-large, give preference to individuals who are responsible for commercial film libraries. The Librarian shall also select from the names submitted under this paragraph an alternate for each member-at-large, who may attend those meetings to which the member-at-large cannot attend.

(b) CHAIRPERSON.—The Librarian shall appoint 1 member of the Board to serve as Chairperson.

(c) TERM OF OFFICE.—(1) The term of each member of the Board shall be 3 years, except that there shall be no limit to the number of terms that any individual member may serve.

(2) A vacancy in the Board shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made under subsection (a), except that the Librarian may fill the vacancy from a list of candidates previously submitted by the organization or organizations involved. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy before the expiration of the term for which his or her predecessor was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of such term.

(d) QUORUM.—9 members of the Board shall constitute a quorum but a lesser number may hold hearings.

(e) BASIC PAY.—Members of the Board shall serve without pay. While away from their home or regular places of business in the

performance of functions of the Board, members of the Board shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Government service are allowed expenses under section 5701 of title 5, United States Code.

(f) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet at least once each calendar year. Meetings shall be at the call of the Librarian.

(g) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—The Librarian shall establish rules and procedures to address any potential conflict of interest between a member of the Board and the responsibilities of the Board.

2 USC 179c.

SEC. 205. RESPONSIBILITIES AND POWERS OF BOARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall review nominations of films submitted to it for inclusion in the National Film Registry and shall consult with the Librarian, as provided in section 203, with respect to the inclusion of such films in the Registry and the preservation of these and other films that are culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant.

(b) NOMINATION OF FILMS.—The Board shall consider, for inclusion in the National Film Registry, nominations submitted by the general public as well as representatives of the film industry, such as the guilds and societies representing actors, directors, screenwriters, cinematographers and other creative artists, producers, film critics, film preservation organizations, and representatives of academic institutions with film study programs. The Board shall nominate not more than 25 films each year for inclusion in the Registry.

(c) GENERAL POWERS.—The Board may, for the purpose of carrying out its duties, hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence, as the Librarian and the Board considers appropriate.

2 USC 179d.

SEC. 206. NATIONAL FILM REGISTRY COLLECTION OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

(a) ACQUISITION OF ARCHIVAL QUALITY COPIES.—The Librarian shall endeavor to obtain, by gift from the owner, an archival quality copy of the Registry version of each film included in the National Film Registry. Whenever possible, the Librarian shall endeavor to obtain the best surviving materials, including preprint materials.

(b) ADDITIONAL MATERIALS.—The Librarian shall endeavor to obtain, for educational and research purposes, additional materials related to each film included in the National Film Registry, such as background materials, production reports, shooting scripts (including continuity scripts) and other similar materials.

(c) PROPERTY OF UNITED STATES.—All copies of films on the National Film Registry that are received by the Librarian and other materials received by the Librarian under subsection (b) shall become the property of the United States Government, subject to the provisions of title 17, United States Code.

(d) NATIONAL FILM REGISTRY COLLECTION.—All copies of films on the National Film Registry that are received by the Librarian and other materials received by the Librarian under subsection (b) shall be maintained in a special collection in the Library of Congress to be known as the "National Film Registry Collection of the Library of Congress". The Librarian shall, by regulation, and in accordance with title 17, United States Code, provide for reasonable access to films in such collection for scholarly and research purposes.

Regulations.

SEC. 207. SEAL OF THE NATIONAL FILM REGISTRY. 2 USC 179e.

(a) USE OF THE SEAL.—(1) No person shall knowingly distribute or exhibit to the public a version of a film which bears the seal described in section 203(b)(3) if such film—

(A) is not included in the National Film Registry; or

(B) is included in the National Film Registry, but such copy was not made from a print that was examined and approved for the use of the seal by the Librarian under section 203(c).

(2) No person shall knowingly use the seal described in section 203(b)(3) to promote any version of a film other than a Registry version.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE SEAL.—The use of the seal described in section 203(b)(3) shall be effective for each film after the Librarian publishes in the Federal Register the name of that film as selected for inclusion in the National Film Registry.

SEC. 208. REMEDIES. 2 USC 179f.

(a) JURISDICTION.—The several district courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction, for cause shown, to prevent and restrain violations of section 207(a).

(b) RELIEF.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), relief for a violation of section 207(a) shall be limited to the removal of the seal of the National Film Registry from the film involved in the violation.

(2) In the case of a pattern or practice of the willful violation of section 207(a), the United States district courts may order a civil fine of not more than $10,000 and appropriate injunctive relief.

SEC. 209. LIMITATIONS OF REMEDIES. 2 USC 179g.

The remedies provided in section 208 shall be the exclusive remedies under this title, or any other Federal or State law, regarding the use of the seal described in section 203(b)(3).

SEC. 210. STAFF OF BOARD; EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS. 2 USC 179h.

(a) STAFF.—The Librarian may appoint and fix the pay of such personnel as the Librarian considers appropriate to carry out this title.

(b) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Librarian may, in carrying out this title, procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the daily equivalent of the maximum rate of basic pay payable for GS–15 of the General Schedule. In no case may a member of the Board be paid as an expert or consultant under such section.

SEC. 211. DEFINITIONS. 2 USC 179i.

As used in this title—

(1) the term "Librarian" means the Librarian of Congress;

(2) the term "Board" means the National Film Preservation Board;

(3) the term "film" means a "motion picture" as defined in section 101 of title 17, United States Code, except that such term does not include any work not originally fixed on film stock, such as a work fixed on videotape or laser disks;

(4) the term "publication" means "publication" as defined in section 101 of title 17, United States Code; and

(5) the term "Registry version" means, with respect to a film, the version of the film first published, or as complete a version as the bona fide preservation and restoration activities by the Librarian, an archivist other than the Librarian, or the copyright owner can compile in those cases where the original material has been irretrievably lost.

2 USC 179j.

SEC. 212. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Librarian such sums as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this title, but in no fiscal year shall such sum exceed $250,000.

2 USC 179k.

SEC. 213. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The provisions of this title shall be effective for four years beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act. The provisions of this title shall apply to any copy of any film, including those copies of films selected for inclusion in the National Film Registry under the National Film Preservation Act of 1988, except that any film so selected under such Act shall be deemed to have been selected for the National Film Registry under this title.

SEC. 214. REPEAL.

The National Film Preservation Act of 1988 (2 U.S.C. 178 and following) is repealed.

TITLE III—OTHER COPYRIGHT PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. REPEAL OF COPYRIGHT REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Section 108(i) of title 17, United States Code, is repealed.

Approved June 26, 1992.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 756 (H.R. 2372):

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 102-379, Pt. 1 accompanying H.R. 2372 (Comm. on the Judiciary).
SENATE REPORTS: No. 102-194 (Comm. on the Judiciary).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Vol. 137 (1991): Nov. 25, considered and passed Senate. H.R. 2372 considered and passed House.
Vol. 138 (1992): June 4, S. 756 considered and passed House, amended. Senate concurred in House amendment.

○