July 20th. 2015
Catherine Rowland
Senior Advisor to the Register of Copyrights
U.S. Copyright Office
crowland@loc.gov

RE: Notice of Inquiry, Copyright Office, Library of Congress

Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (Docket No. 2015-01)

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Heather Landis. I am a freelance Photo Illustrator and Photographer.

I graduated from Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California.

I am fortunate to be an artist for a living and to have gone to one of the best private art schools in the world, and I am exceptionally fortunate to make a living creating work that I love to make and that influences the world in a positive way.

I am able to earn this living because of copyright laws protecting my rights of ownership to my work.

I earn a living through commercial assignments, selling artwork online, and licensing commercially through stock agencies. When a person or company asks to use my work without paying they are essentially telling me that my education, skills and talent have zero monetary value.

The assumption of zero monetary value for work does NOT exist in any other industry.

People have inherent value and so does art. Changing copyright to protect everyone else except the artist and their work will change creative industries for generations to come.

Society is far more dependent on creative works than they realize. Imagine going through a day without seeing a film, photograph, illustration, or logo.

When you take away an artist's rights you limit creative thought.

Please consider how this bill would negatively affect the existence of modern freelance artists and the impact it would have.

Thank you

Sincerely,
Heather Landis