PegGerrity
CERTIFIED MEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR

6731 Bridge Street #333
Fort Worth, Texas 76112
281.304.0745

July 4, 2015

Dear Copyright Office:

I am writing to you specifically on July 4th to once again ask that you not replace our existing copyright law with the revised legislation currently under consideration.

I am a Certified Medical Illustrator and have owned my own business for the past 26 years. My specialty area is fetal development and women's health illustration, and I continue to re-license many of my 40 week pregnancy sets to various healthcare providers, pharmaceutical companies, and web developers. During the 15 years since I created my first set of fetal images, I would estimate that 85% of my income has come from the re-licensing of these images. In fact, I have leased one specific set to several US State Departments of Health for WRTK publications, as well as to the Federal government for their website www.womenshealth.gov. This same set of images has been leased to the states of Nebraska, Minnesota, Louisiana, Texas, Georgia, North Carolina, Arizona, West Virginia, and even the territory of Guam.

The re-licensing of this set and of my other fetal development images has allowed me to provide for my family, even during the years when I was a single mother.

The protection of these images is of utmost importance to my livelihood, and I have struggled to fight the rampant piracy of them, especially by political groups. My contract with the state departments of health for the WRTK fetal set stipulates that in order to maintain neutrality, the images not be re-licensed to any political groups. This is crucial to maintaining the validity of these images and the trust I have built with my US government clients. I've spent years educating 'good faith' political groups who have used my art unauthorized because they found the works in media where pirates had deliberately deleted my copyright watermark and published my images as 'orphans'. Mass digitization coupled with orphan works legislation will only make the piracy worse.

Thanks again for listening.

Margaret 'Peg' Gerrity, Certified Medical Illustrator

www.peggerrity.com
peg@peggerrity.com