Dear Copyright Office,

I am writing in response to your Notice of Inquiry on Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works. As a mother of a young illustrator and father who is trying his best to make a living with his work, I plead with you to respect his right to his own copyrights – as the Constitution guarantees. What you are suggesting in this new legislation is nothing short of piracy. It's like telling Microsoft to give all its software to Apple, because, ya know, it's just too hard to get around Microsoft's copyrights.

This new legislation is so far reaching it will affect everyone. They just don't know it yet. Any picture posted on Facebook could be slightly changed and used for commercial purposes. Think of how any picture can be changed and distorted and then splashed all over the internet. Is that what you want for your own family?

The expense and time involved in registering all works of art with accompanying contracts, etc. would make it impossible for hundreds of thousands of legitimate artists to practice their art or make a living – all for the sake of relatively few people who have complained that they don't want to bother to get permission or pay for copyright. This is flat out stealing and is morally reprehensible.

As a writer I also realize what a copyright pariah this new legislation would make the United States in the world community and how far reaching the unintended consequences of such legislation can be.

Please show some backbone and stand against this new legislation.

Sincerely,
Laurel Strong