Nicky Quartermaine Scott
Studio Q
1717 Burshire Drive
Plainfield, IL 60586

Re: Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works

To Whom it May Concern,

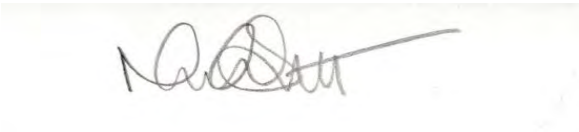
I have recently heard about upcoming changes to the copyright laws that could in effect have a huge impact on artists' rights and their right to retain true copyright over their work.

I am an artist specializing in nursery / children's artwork and illustrations. I run my business full-time selling through Etsy (an online marketplace) and I have been quite successful with my work which began as a part-time venture to help bridge a financial gap. I have been selling my work through Etsy since early 2014 as a means of supporting my family.

My background is fine arts and design after I went back to school and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Interior Design. I did not use my degree to much extent in interior design, as the field was saturated when I was applying for jobs. Being a mother of two young children at the time meant I had to reinvent myself and use my artistic skills elsewhere. I have found a niche that is both profitable and rewarding for both me as the artist and the customers with young families I sell to. My feedback and reviews are first class and I hope to grow my business in the next few years.

When you make a living selling your artwork, it does not seem fair or right that others have the right to use it, copy it and re-sell to make a profit without the artist receiving any rights, royalties or acknowledgements. This in effect seems like theft to me. The internet makes it easy to sell artwork but also very easy for others to steal it, especially big corporations or others who can hide behind a veil of secrecy. Imagine how I would be hauled through the courts if I dare copy lyrics to a famous pop-star's lyrics or copied Mickey Mouse and made it my own? The same works for us small folks who are mostly just trying to get by.

My work does not lose value upon publication. When I create a new piece, it is stored in my own personal library where I have the potential to earn revenue from it. It is part of my own business inventory - I created it, so I can therefore use it. Others should not be able to use it without my permission or in the form of a licensing agreement.

Thank you for reading my letter. I ask that any visual art be excluded from any orphan works provisions that Congress writes into the new Copyright Law.

Sincerely,