Dear Copyright Office,

I'm writing to express my concern with the proposed change in copyright law to visual works. While not a current professional artist, I have been one in the past and partially funded my college education through my art. I'm very concerned at the proposal to loosen copyright restrictions and allow people who are not the creator of a work of art to use and profit by it without the creator's knowledge or consent, especially since this is the livelihood of professional artists! You would not care to let strangers help themselves to your paycheck without asking you; artists (whether professional or occasional) should likewise not be defrauded. People should not be required to pay a separate fee for every copyright registration of every work they've created, whether it's a giant mural or photos of their children. Registering each individual artistic creation may be in the budget of large corporations; however, individual artists depend keenly on the much smaller sales they are able to make, and extra fees for creation could put a significant potential bite into an artist's earnings—all to protect something that should rightfully be his or hers in the first place.

Furthermore, the proposed law change seems to fly directly in the face of Article 1, Section 8 of the US constitution, which reads as follows:

"The Congress shall have Power To…promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries…"

Disregarding the constitution this way is, frankly, disturbing to me. Please do not enact this law!

Sincerely,
Rose Green