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Maria Pallante
U.S. Copyright Office
101 Independence Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20559-6000

Dear Ms. Pallante,

I am writing as a private traditional painter. I work on commission and keep a detailed portfolio online for perusal by potential clients. My work is highly respected in my small corner of the arts, and my ability to share examples of my work without fear of rampant piracy is fundamental to my ability to keep making art.

The proposed changes to U.S. copyright law are tantamount to saying that my work itself, the twenty-plus years I have spent learning and honing my craft, and the efforts I go to in establishing trust and openness with clients can be appropriated by anyone with an internet connection for their own profit. However, even the *legally sanctioned piracy* involved in these so-called reforms is less damaging to my ability to continue making art than the obvious corporate interest at play. In short, the proposed law actively favors specific large database models at the expense of independent artists, creating a zero-sum game where the artist will always lose.

The proposed legislation is an affront to the development of artistry as well as the legal rights of artists in this country. The economic climate is already challenging to individual artists, and these 'reforms' are clearly a game rigged to further encourage the obsolescence of artistic effort. I sincerely ask that you dismiss the proposed changes of the corporate-sanctioned nonsense that they are.

Sincerely yours,

Kira Singleton