Copyright Office

To whom it may concern:

I'm a professional artist who has made a living as an artist for 44 years, selling my original one-of-a-kind work, mainly oil paintings, primarily through galleries. I have a degree in art and have done additional study at the Art Student's League in New York City. I've won numerous awards in international shows, taking top awards at the Salmagundi Club and the American Artists Professional League in New York City.

Especially in this age of the internet, maintaining control of how my work is used is very important to me both personally and as a business – my livelihood. Original oils are unique by their nature. Using an image of an original without the artist's permission is stealing, pure and simple. It is hard for me to imagine that this could be made legal. I hope you can see that for visual artists in particular, this would be a disaster and make what is already a difficult road as an artist an impossible one. I hope you realize the implications of these proposed changes and reverse this course of action. The primary purpose of copyright, for the visual artist, is to protect the products of the individual artist.

The proposed changes to the Copyright Act are a travesty of the first order and must be reversed.

Sincerely,

Katharine A. Palmer