Maria Pallante
Register of Copyrights
US Copyright Office
101 Independence Ave SE
Washington, DC 20559-6000

RE: Notice of Inquiry, Copyright Office, Library of Congress
Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (Docket No. 2015-01)

Dear Ms. Pallante & US Copyright Office Staff:

I have been a practicing artist for 38 years. Here is a brief overview of my credentials:
Education
1977, BFA in Illustration from Philadelphia College of Art, Philadelphia PA
1985. MFA in Medical Art from Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester NY
Work Experience
1977-present, freelance artist
1984-1987, Instructor at University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA
1987-1997, Scientific Illustrator at the Natl. Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Inst., Washington DC
1997-2013, Professor of Fine Arts, Indiana Univ South Bend, South Bend, Indiana
My work appears in numerous publications, including children's educational textbooks, college science textbooks, and medical publications (books and journals). I work as an illustrator, designer and fine artist.

The copyright law affects me directly, as I depend on being paid fairly for the use of my work. I depend on this for my livelihood, and so do many of the students I've taught throughout the years. It is important to me that I remain able to determine voluntarily how and by whom my work is used. My work does not lose value upon publication. Any of my work, past and present, becomes a part of my business inventory, and in this digital age, inventory is as important as ever.

I ask that the US Copyright Office needs to take the needs of visual artists and the Art Licensing community into consideration when drafting this new legislation. I hope these new laws will protect my future as a professional artist.

Respectfully,

Karen Ackoff
Illustrator, Designer and Fine Artist
Professor Emerita, Indiana Univ South Bend
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Valparaiso, IN 46385
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