SANDY ALLNOCK LLC

35205 13th Pl SW, Federal Way, WA 98023

July 15, 2015

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

RE: Notice of Inquiry, Copyright Office, Library of Congress

Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (80fr23054)

Dear Ms. Pallante,

I am writing to ask that you create policy to protect visual authors and their exclusive rights, and support a sustainable environment for professional authorship.

I am an artist with a long career as an illustrator and designer, and my livelihood is based on ownership of my creations. My entire business model is dependent on the current law – including automatic ownership of my own works the moment they are created. If the proposals I have been hearing about come about, my entire mode of operations will need to change completely - and I may even be forced to consider a career change!

The problems for me, as an artist, that I see forcing this change? Filing for every piece I create! I am regularly posting creations – sometimes almost daily – for which filing copyright would completely interfere daily with my ability to create more works. Sheer volume, expense, paperwork - and time! The cost of this would be borne by myself – not only devoting my time and resources for the filing, but in lost income from works no longer able to be created. This is not part of a sustainable business model.

It is embarrassing that international copyright law is so much fairer to artists than US law, and that needs to be corrected. We need strong protections for creators that do not give away the henhouse to corporate copyright abusers! A law that allows "orphan works" copyright infringement by corporations is inexcusable! Or allowing infringers the right to register something they have stolen? What a mistake! And no public viewing of the registered works would mean we as artists wouldn't even be able to find out if our work has been infringed! There are too many bad points in the currently proposed law that would simply put the United States into the dark ages of copyright law – and will set our artist community's ability to make a living in a downward spiral. Does that match our country's values? I think not!

Please reconsider the current proposals and think about it from the perspective of creators – our world NEEDS art. Our nation NEEDS art. Do not allow the theft of creations by those who God endowed with the gift of creativity, nor force them to become a paperwork monkey – thus killing off art with the passing of a terrible law!

Sincerely,
Sandy Allnock