July 22, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

As an artist, I am very concerned about the proposed revised copyright law. I am against the new law. I have been an artist for over 25 years, showing my work in many venues. I am a signature member of the New England Watercolor Society and the Rhode Island Watercolor Society, past president and board member of the Wellesley Society of Artists and active with the Watercolor Connection, based in Metrowest Boston. I work with many artists who would be adversely affected by this proposed new copyright act.

The copyright law is important to all artists. Our business and livelihood depend upon having sole ownership to our work. It is important that we remain able to determine how and by whom our work is used.

My paintings and other artwork do not lose their value when published. Everything I create becomes part of my inventory. Today in the digital world, my work is more valuable. Not only do I own the right to my paintings, but also the cards and prints I make from the original image. The new copyright law would not protect me from others duplicating my own original work.

I urge you to vote against the new copyright act.

Thanks and best regards,

Yale S. Nicolls

Wellesley, MA