



July 14, 2025

The Honorable Thom Tillis
Chairman
Subcommittee on Intellectual Property
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Adam Schiff
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Intellectual Property
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual
Property, Artificial Intelligence,
and the Internet
United States House
of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hank Johnson
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual
Property, Artificial Intelligence,
and the Internet
United States House
of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Judiciary Committee
Co-Chair of the Trademark Caucus
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chris Coons
Vice Chairman
Select Committee on Ethics
Co-Chair of the Trademark Caucus
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Tillis, Schiff, Grassley, and Coons and Representatives Issa and Johnson:

Given the importance of protecting intellectual property, with S.RES.314 introduced to name July as "National Anti-Counterfeiting and Consumer Education and Awareness Month,"¹ on behalf of the diverse American innovators, creators, and world-famous brand owners, and consumer protection organizations represented by our cross-industry group of industry associations, we write to request your help in preserving funding for the Office of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator (IPEC) and advocating for an appointment by the Trump administration to this vital role before the end of 2025.

¹ S.Res.314: A resolution recognizing the importance of trademarks in the economy and the role of trademarks in protecting consumer safety, by designating the month of July as "National Anti-Counterfeiting and Consumer Education and Awareness Month"
<https://www.congress.gov/bills/119th-congress/senate-resolution/314>

Since its inception in 2008, the IPEC has been instrumental in protecting—and giving voice to—America’s position as the world’s most innovative and creative economy. As the Trump Administration recognized in its January 2021 *Annual Intellectual Property Report*:

“the [IPEC] along with other White House offices, in coordination with executive branch departments and agencies, works to advance pro-growth policies, to promote and protect our great competitive advantage – our nation’s innovative economy.”²

As the Trump Administration pushes to revise the United States’ trading relationships, a fully resourced IPEC team, including leadership and staff, will help ensure IP inputs provide a pathway to address long-standing and emerging challenges that hinder innovation and our competitiveness in the global marketplace. Additionally, the IPEC will help to solicit input and real-time information from domestic rights holders to support enhanced IP policies and to provide context.

The IPEC office plays a vital role in ensuring a strategic vision at home and abroad as American IP-intensive companies face growing threats from global IP infringements, counterfeiting, and piracy – impacting domestic jobs, national security, and fueling illicit actors. Inter-agency coordination is a must. So too is the need to pull all stakeholders together to support the Administration and Congress. The IPEC is essential to developing this coordinated government support and has been a missing link since the last IPEC left the White House in 2021.

We are concerned by the proposed reduction in funding for the IPEC office in the FY 2026 budget.³ We request your help in restoring this funding at previous levels and advocating for the nomination, and swift confirmation of, an Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator by the end of the year.

Thank you for your continued leadership and we stand ready to support you on this journey to protect America’s innovative economy.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Automotive Innovation (AAI)
American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)
Anti-Counterfeiting Educational Foundation (ACEF)
Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM)
Automotive Anti-Counterfeiting Council (A2C2)
Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA)
The Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies (ASOP)
The International AntiCounterfeiting Coalition (IACC)
The Partnership for Safe Medicines
Personal Care Products Council
Plumbing Manufacturers International
TIC Council

² Annual Intellectual Property Report to Congress, Jan. 2021, p.2, <https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/IPEC-Annual-Intellectual-Property-Report-January-2021.pdf>.

³ “The FY 2026 President’s Budget does not request funding for the Office of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator,” Technical Supplement to the 2026 Budget, p.977, https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/appendix_fy2026.pdf#page987.