

1 **COMMITTEE:** **Communications, Financial Services &**
2 **Interstate Commerce and Law and Criminal**
3 **Justice Committee**

4 **POLICY:** **Resolution Supporting Intellectual Property (IP)**
5 **Rights and Protections to Promote Productivity,**
6 **Competitiveness, Jobs, and Public Health**

7
8 **TYPE OF POLICY:** **Action**

9
10 WHEREAS, Intellectual property (IP) rights and innovation are primary drivers of job
11 creation and America's economic growth.

12
13 WHEREAS, IP companies in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors employ
14 slightly more than 19 million full and part-time workers and accounted for 16.3% of U.S.
15 full and part-time employment; and

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17 WHEREAS, in the latest U.S. official data, IP companies in the manufacturing and
18 nonmanufacturing sectors generated nearly \$7.7 trillion in gross output, accounting for
19 33.1% of the total U.S. gross output; and

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21 WHEREAS, IP-intensive industries pay their workers higher salaries with the annual
22 salary of all workers in IP-intensive industries averaging 60% higher than workers at
23 similar levels in non-IP-intensive industries.

24
25 WHEREAS, IP-intensive industries drive American exports accounting for approximately
26 60% of total U.S. exports.

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28 WHEREAS, given the important role that IP plays in sustaining a long-term economic
29 growth, policymakers should give high priority to fostering innovation and protecting
30 intellectual property; and

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32 WHEREAS, protecting and enforcing the IP rights of businesses are critical to
33 advancing global economic recovery, driving competitiveness and export growth, and
34 creating high-quality jobs; and

35
36 WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures believes that widespread
37 efforts to promote innovation and intellectual property protection are critical to improving
38 the nation's long-term competitiveness in a global market, and to achieving certain
39 socioeconomic improvements in the quality of American life; and

40
41 NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the National Conference of State
42 Legislatures calls upon all levels of governments to work cooperatively with the private
43 sector, nonprofits, and academia to create, develop and implement robust pro-IP
44 awareness and enforcement; and

45
46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the National Conference of State Legislatures supports
47 efforts to ensure the IPEC has sufficient staff, budget, and authority to fulfill the
48 obligations and achieve the goals outlined in the PRO-IP Act and the National IP
49 Strategy; and

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51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the National Conference of State Legislatures support
52 robust IP protection and enforcement provisions in trade agreements and their
53 implementation (specifically the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP)/ KORUS);
54 and

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56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the National Conference of State Legislatures
57 supports a clear plan to shut down the top rogue websites globally that are willfully
58 selling counterfeit goods and facilitating digital theft; and

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60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the President
61 of the United States and all members of the 112th Congress.