

1 **COMMITTEE: COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCIAL**
2 **SERVICES & INTERSTATE COMMERCE**

3 **RESOLUTION: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING**
4 **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP) RIGHTS**
5 **AND PROTECTIONS TO PROMOTE**
6 **PRODUCTIVITY, COMPETITIVENESS,**
7 **JOBS, AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

8 **TYPE OF POLICY: RESOLUTION**

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

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12 WHEREAS, over 55 million jobs are directly and indirectly supported by IP-
13 intensive industries as a significant driver of GDP, exports, and wages in every
14 state of the Union; and

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16 WHEREAS, IP-intensive industries are responsible for \$5.8 trillion in private
17 sector output (GDP); and

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19 WHEREAS, in a 2012 economic study by the U.S. Department of Commerce that
20 ties employment and value-added numbers to IP-intensive industries, IP-
21 intensive industries pay workers 42% higher wages than those of non IP-
22 intensive industries; and

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24 WHEREAS, IP-intensive industries drive American exports accounting for
25 approximately \$1 trillion (74% of total U.S. exports in 2011); and

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

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

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

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

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

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51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the National Conference of State Legislatures
52 support robust IP protection and enforcement provisions in trade agreements and
53 their implementation; and

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

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the
59 President of the United States and all members of the 113th Congress.