

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

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

7 **TYPE: EXISTING RESOLUTION**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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29 **WHEREAS**, protecting and enforcing the IP rights of businesses are critical to
30 advancing global economic recovery, driving competitiveness and export growth, and

31 creating high-quality jobs; and

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

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

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

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48 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Conference of State Legislatures support
49 robust IP protection and enforcement provisions in trade agreements and their
50 implementation; and

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

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

58 *Expires August 2015*