

**UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

uspto

Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting

Legislative/Governmental Affairs Update

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Please submit questions to ppac@uspto.gov

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Looking Forward – Second Session 114th Congress

Patent Reform – Abusive Litigation Practices

- House and Senate bills differ but offer comprehensive reform and retain core litigation provisions
- Comprehensive Bills appear stalled pending resolution of BIO/PhRMA concerns re IPRs
- Senate Judiciary compromise IPR language under consideration
- Alternative reforms under discussion: Venue reform
- Administrative and Court actions continue to touch upon many of these issues outside of legislation

Trade Secrets Enforcement Legislation

- *Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016* - H.R. 3326 (Collins), S. 1890 (Hatch)
- Bills establish federal private civil cause of action for the misappropriation of a trade secret
- Senate Judiciary amended and adopted S. 1890 by voice vote 1/28/2016

Auto Crash Parts – Design Patent Limitation

- *Promoting Automotive Repair, Trade and Sales (PARTS) Act* - H.R. 1057 (Issa), S. 560 (Hatch)
- Bills limit design patent protection to 2½ yrs for exterior car parts (e.g., hood, fender, tail light, side mirror)
- Hearing by House Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet – 2/2/2016

Looking Forward – Second Session 114th Congress

Copyright Policy and Copyright Office Modernization

- House Judiciary Committee “Copyright Review Listening Tour” on copyright laws
- Various Proposals on Copyright Office Restructuring discussed
- Ratification and Implementation of Beijing and Marrakesh Copyright Treaties
- Release of DOC White Paper on Remixes, First Sale, and Statutory Damages – 1/28/2016

Oversight Activity Related to USPTO Operations and Workforce Management

USPTO Regional Offices and State & Local Engagement

- Four Offices now open – significant interest from Congressional delegations in MI, TX, CO and CA
- Increased opportunities for outreach, education and recruiting
- Identifying other ways to engage Members to support/highlight other USPTO activities (*such as ProBono Lunches, STEM initiatives, etc.*)

Calendar Considerations for 2016

2016 Presidential Elections (Feb. Activity)

FEB. 1

Iowa

First voting in the nation.

FEB. 9

New Hampshire

First primary in the nation.

FEB. 20

Nevada Democratic Caucus

Republican caucus is Feb. 23.

South Carolina Republican Primary

FEB. 23

Nevada Republican Caucus

Democratic caucus is Feb. 20.

FEB. 27

South Carolina Democratic Primary

277 Days until the 2016
Presidential Election

~71 Congressional work days
between now and the election.

Republican National Convention

Cleveland, Ohio Quicken Loans Arena
July 18-21, 2016

Democratic National Convention

Philadelphia, PA
Wells Fargo Center and the
Pennsylvania Convention Center
Dates: Week of July 25th, 2016

Questions and Comments

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