

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

R. BRUCE JOSTEN
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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July 30, 2008

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Arlen Specter
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Specter:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region, commends you for introducing S. 3325, the "Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights Act of 2008," and expeditiously scheduling this legislation for Committee markup on July 31st.

Protecting intellectual property (IP) is critical to America's future competitiveness and economic security. Counterfeiting and piracy of IP cost U.S. businesses nearly \$250 billion in revenue each year and has already caused the loss of an estimated 750,000 American jobs. Moreover, as was highlighted by the Committee's June 17th hearing, counterfeit products such as auto and aviation parts, electrical equipment, prescription drugs, and many others pose a severe health and safety risk to American consumers.

The Chamber supports S. 3325 because it will improve coordination among government agencies responsible for IP enforcement and provide additional resources and legal tools necessary to address the growing threat posed by counterfeiting and piracy.

The Chamber appreciates your leadership on this important issue and looks forward to working with you, members of the Judiciary Committee, and the full Senate toward swift approval of S. 3325.

Sincerely,



R. Bruce Josten

Cc: Members of the Committee on the Judiciary
The Honorable Evan Bayh
The Honorable George Voinovich