

## THE COALITION FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY PATENT REFORM

*Protecting Innovation to Enhance American Competitiveness*

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### **It's World Intellectual Property Day: Now Is The Time To Pass Comprehensive Patent Reform Legislation**

#### ***Support Grows for Managers' Amendment to S. 515: It Will Improve America's Patent System and Promote Job Growth through Investment in R&D and New Manufacturing***

**Washington, D.C.** – The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) celebrates World Intellectual Property Day to educate people around the world on how intellectual property – copyright, patents, industrial designs and trademarks – improves the lives of all consumers and societies. The Coalition for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Patent Reform joins WIPO in celebrating the many enhancements IP has brought to our lives, and urges Congress to approve the Managers' Amendment to S. 515, The Patent Reform Act of 2010, comprehensive patent reform legislation which will further strengthen America's leadership in innovation and discovery.

Through the bipartisan leadership of Senate Judiciary Chairman Patrick Leahy, Ranking Member Jeff Sessions and other Judiciary Committee members, the Managers' Amendment to S. 515 will improve the patent system for all inventors and innovators, strengthen our economy and create jobs.

Congress has debated and continuously refined several comprehensive patent reform measures since 2005. The Managers' Amendment to S. 515 before the Senate Judiciary Committee is the culmination of this deliberative process, a carefully balanced compromise that addresses the key aspects of the patent system. The Managers' Amendment to S. 515 is broadly supported by the diverse constituencies in the patent community.

Gary Griswold, chairman of the Coalition for 21st Century Patent Reform, said, "America's innovation and economic growth are linked to our patent system. Inventors need an invigorated Patent and Trademark Office to improve the timely processing of strong patents. All Americans will benefit from this legislation and a simpler, objectively-based, transparent patent system."

Support for the Managers' Amendment to S. 515 is growing and diverse. Supporters include the U.S. Department of Commerce, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, IP experts (American Intellectual Property Law Association, Section of Intellectual Property Law of the American Bar Association, Intellectual Property Owners Association), research universities and associations (partial list: Wisconsin Alumni Research

Foundation, Yale University, University of California, University of Minnesota, Association of American Universities, American Council on Education, Association of American Medical Colleges, Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, Association of University Technology Managers), organized labor (AFL-CIO, United Steelworkers), trade associations (Biotechnology Industry Organization, PhRMA, Advanced Medical Technology Association, California Healthcare Institute) and dozens of individual companies and coalitions from diverse industry sectors.

-- 30 --

The Coalition for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Patent Reform has nearly 50 members from 18 diverse industry sectors and includes many of the nation's leading manufacturers and researchers. The coalition's steering committee includes 3M, Caterpillar, General Electric, Johnson & Johnson, Eli Lilly and Procter & Gamble. The coalition has members in a variety of industry sectors including: Aerospace and Defense, Chemical, Computers, Diversified Financials, Diversified Technology, Energy, Food Production, Forest & Paper Products, Health Care, Household & Personal Products, Industrial Equipment, Medical Equipment & Devices, Network & Communications, Payroll Services, Pharmaceutical, Biotechnology, Semiconductors & Electronic Components, and Transportation Equipment. Visit <http://www.patentsmatter.com> for more information.