

THE COALITION FOR 21ST CENTURY PATENT REFORM

Protecting Innovation to Enhance American Competitiveness

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Bipartisan House Judiciary Committee Vote Advances Patent Reform

H.R. 1249 Will Benefit Inventors and Encourage Investments and Private Sector Job Growth

Washington, D.C. – Gary Griswold of the Coalition for 21st Century Patent Reform today released the following statement after the House Judiciary Committee approved H.R. 1249, *The America Invents Act of 2011*. Under the leadership of Chairman Lamar Smith and with the help of other members of the Committee, a significant step toward patent reform was taken today with the reporting of H.R. 1249 from the Committee. As reported, H.R. 1249 will improve the U.S. patent system and strengthen incentives for inventors and businesses across the country to invest their time and energies in the research and commercialization of new innovations. The Coalition applauds the Committee for their hard work.

“Our Coalition believes the legislation reported, with overwhelmingly broad bipartisan support, will improve the operations of the USPTO and procedures for obtaining and enforcing patents. The Judiciary Committee took a significant step forward today in reporting H.R. 1249. Our Coalition will continue efforts to achieve a fair and balanced patent bill and look forward to its favorable consideration on the House floor.

The Committee’s hard work moves the 112th Congress closer to approving the first comprehensive patent reform legislation in 60 years; our economy and inventors need it. The country’s competitiveness and job growth are linked to the patent system and the operations of the USPTO; H.R. 1249 is a strong bill that will benefit America’s inventors.”

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The Coalition has approximately 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.