

Andrei Iancu

Now I want to turn over to my good friend Congressman Kevin Kiley who comes from California. He was the Republican in the California state assembly, and he hasn't wasted any time since he took office in Congress to work on intellectual property issues. So with that, Congressman Kiley.

Rep. Kevin Kiley

For the record, I was one of 18 in the California Assembly. I was looking forward so much to being in the majority, and nowadays, it seems it's not all it's cracked up to be. But I want to thank Andrei and David and Frank and everyone involved for spearheading this initiative, as someone who is on the IP subcommittee -- and having dabbled in patent law myself, back when I worked with Andrei several years ago. I am really glad that this organization exists. And I'm incredibly impressed with how rapidly it's grown and brought folks together and built a really impressive coalition. And also, thank you to the inventors who are here. I met, I think, a couple. I think that your voices are really, really powerful in telling the story that this council, C4IP, is trying to tell. And I've had a chance to meet a number of different inventors throughout this process. But we've had the chance to collaborate a lot already. I'm working on a companion bill for the eligibility bill that's in the Senate right now, and I think that's going really well. It is an area where I think there are unique opportunities for bipartisan collaboration. And patent law and related areas can be kind of technical. [They're] not necessarily the issues that are going to be subject to around-the-clock cable news coverage -- but the impacts are, in terms of the impact on the economy and impact in terms of our national security or global competitiveness. And so I think C4IP has really filled this vacuum here in DC, where there's plenty of advocacy on one issue or another, but there hasn't been a robust effort at advocacy specifically around innovation. So I'm really glad this has come together. I'm glad to celebrate one year tonight, and [I'm] looking forward to working with you in the future to revive innovation in this country. So thank you very much.