



Andrei Iancu, Co-Chair
David Kappos, Co-Chair
Judge Paul Michel (Ret.), Board Member
Judge Kathleen O'Malley (Ret.), Board Member
Frank Cullen, Executive Director

February 19, 2025

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

On behalf of the Council for Innovation Promotion (C4IP), I write to congratulate you on the beginning of your administration.

C4IP is a bipartisan coalition dedicated to promoting strong and effective intellectual property rights, driving innovation, boosting economic competitiveness, and improving lives everywhere. Our organization is chaired by two former U.S. Patent and Trademark Office directors, Andrei Iancu, who served under your first administration, and David Kappos, who served under the Obama administration. Our board includes two retired judges from the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, former Chief Judge Paul Michel and former Judge Kathleen O'Malley.

The impact of robust IP rights cannot be overstated. They underpin a vast swathe of our economy, with IP-intensive sectors supporting 44% of U.S. jobs and accounting for over 40% of our GDP.¹ They protect American innovators in fields ranging from film and television to biotechnology to artificial intelligence.

Strong IP rights also ensure our continued global competitiveness and national security as economic and political rivals like China seek to pull ahead. Currently, China leads in 57 of 64 critical emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and protective cybersecurity technologies.² We need strong IP laws backed by executive implementation in order to regain the lead in these fields.

Our organization shares many common goals with your administration, such as promoting new technologies, encouraging small business success, and upholding U.S. economic and job growth. Decisions made by your administration concerning intellectual property will be fundamental to meeting these objectives.

[1] United States Patent and Trademark Office, *Intellectual Property and the U.S. Economy: Third edition*, iii (2022), <https://www.uspto.gov/sites/default/files/documents/uspto-ip-us-economy-third-edition.pdf>.

[2] Australian Strategic Policy Institute, *ASPI's two-decade Critical Technology Tracker: The rewards of long-term research investment*, 4 (2024), <https://www.aspi.org.au/report/critical-technology-tracker>.

We ask for your administration's support on the following initiatives:

- Supporting the passage of pro-IP legislation to ensure robust protections for American innovators and small businesses, including the **Patent Eligibility Restoration Act (PERA)**, the **Promoting and Respecting Economically Vital American Innovation Leadership (PREVAIL) Act**, and the **RESTORE Patent Rights Act**.
- **Upholding the Bayh-Dole Act** governing government-private sector technology transfer by striking down the Biden administration's proposed march-in framework, which threatens to undermine this well-working system that spurs American inventions and economic growth.³
- **Promoting strong IP protections** for critical emerging technologies to maximize U.S. global competitiveness in the face of foreign adversaries like China.
- **Maintaining America's competitive edge** on the global stage by reinstating the 2019 position paper of the Department of Justice, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology's on standard-essential patents (SEPs), ensuring access to legal remedies for patent infringement for owners of those patents covering critical high-technology standards.⁴

Once again, congratulations on your inauguration and the beginning weeks of your administration. We look forward to any opportunity to collaborate in fostering American prosperity through strong IP rights.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank Cullen', with a stylized, cursive script.

Frank Cullen
Executive Director
Council for Innovation Promotion (C4IP)

[3] The Bayh-Dole Coalition, *Success Stories*, <https://bayhdolecoalition.org/about/#:~:text=READ%20MORE-,Success%20Stories,-Innovations%20made%20possible>.

[4] Walter Copan, Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Markan Delrahim, Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division, US. Department of Justice, and Andrei Iancu, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Policy Statement on Remedies for Standards-Essential Patents Subject to Voluntary F/Rand Commitments (2019) (withdrawn), <https://www.justice.gov/atr/page/file/1228016/dl>.