

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 30, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

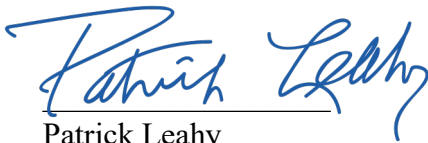
On April 26, the global community will come together to celebrate World Intellectual Property Day. World IP Day recognizes the important role that intellectual property plays in promoting innovation, creativity and economic growth. Ensuring that the intellectual property of creative artists, inventors and small businesses is meaningfully protected is a top priority for us in Congress. To underscore the importance of intellectual property rights as we approach World IP Day, we write today to ask that you prioritize the appointment of intellectual property officials within the Executive Branch over the coming weeks.

According to the Department of Commerce, IP-intensive industries account for 45 million jobs and more than 38 percent of U.S. GDP. In recognition of the important contributions intellectual property makes to our Nation's culture and its economy, we ask that you move expeditiously to fill key Executive Branch positions that promote and protect intellectual property rights at home and abroad, including the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator and the Chief Innovation and Intellectual Property Negotiator within the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

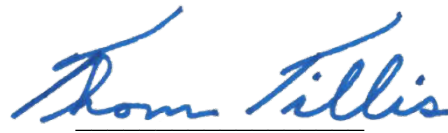
As a United States Senator and as Vice President of the United States, you always played a vital role in supporting creators and businesses that rely on our IP system. This is more important than ever now that you serve as President of the United States. At a time when our economy is in need of recovery from the damage caused by the coronavirus, IP-intensive industries are poised to continue to be an engine for growth. Therefore, our focus on promoting and protecting IP-related jobs and economic output must be steadfast.

We look forward to working with you and your Administration to swiftly confirm qualified nominees for these critical positions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Patrick Leahy
United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator