

THE COALITION FOR 21ST CENTURY PATENT REFORM

Protecting Innovation to Enhance American Competitiveness

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For Immediate Release
January 20, 2011

Contact: Bill Mashek
202.354.8275
bmashek@pstrategies.com

Bipartisan Senate Patent Reform Legislation Benefits American Innovation

Comprehensive reform bill promotes job growth, spurs research and development

Washington, D.C. – Senators Patrick Leahy, Orrin Hatch, and Chuck Grassley today announced that *The Patent Reform Act of 2011* will be introduced January 25 and has been placed on the Judiciary Committee’s agenda for their first executive business meeting. The provisions and language of the bill mirrors key improvements to the long-pending legislation that were part of a compromise that was announced last Congress. The following statement in strong support of *The Patent Reform Act of 2011* is attributable to Gary Griswold of the Coalition for 21st Century Patent Reform:

“Our coalition strongly supports *The Patent Reform Act of 2011* and the Senators’ efforts to introduce a bill early in the Congressional Session, to garner strong bipartisan support, and to build upon the bipartisan compromise that was agreed to last year. Americans want jobs – and patent reform is part of the solution. With passage of patent reform legislation, the United States Patent and Trademark Office will be better able to provide the incentives needed to create jobs. This legislation will ensure our nation’s patent system will promptly provide inventors with high quality patents and protections needed to spur innovation, develop new products, and create jobs.

Last year, a broad coalition of more than 100 associations, companies, universities, and independent inventors supported similar reform provisions; this is a strong starting point for moving the legislation forward. Our coalition of companies will be working to help support the Senator’s efforts to bring this measure from the committee to the floor for a vote. We are encouraged by the Administration’s support of patent reform and also the commitment Chairman Lamar Smith and the other House Judiciary Committee members have shown in moving forward with patent reform legislation.”

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The Coalition will develop an analysis of the bill’s provisions following its introduction.

The Coalition has more than 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.