

# AMERICA INVENTS ACT

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HEARING  
BEFORE THE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY,  
COMPETITION, AND THE INTERNET  
OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

**H.R. 1249**

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# AMERICA INVENTS ACT

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2011

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY,  
COMPETITION, AND THE INTERNET,  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,  
*Washington, DC.*

The Subcommittee met, pursuant to call, at 1:32 p.m., in room 2141, Rayburn House Office Building, the Honorable Bob Goodlatte (Chairman of the Subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Goodlatte, Smith, Coble, Sensenbrenner, Chabot, Chaffetz, Reed, Griffin, Marino, Adams, Quayle, Watt, Conyers, Berman, Chu, Deutch, Sánchez, Lofgren, and Waters.

Staff Present: (Majority) Blaine Merritt, Subcommittee Chief Counsel; Vishal Amin, Counsel; Olivia Lee, Clerk; and Stephanie Moore, Minority Subcommittee Chief Counsel.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Folks, we are going to just make an announcement. We will begin the hearing after this series of votes. We want to spend a little bit of time on our opening statements. So it is probably not enough time to get it in before the votes.

Also, at 2:30 p.m., there is a briefing by some of our country's leaders regarding the situation in Libya, and so that all Members can participate, we are going to recess the hearing at 2:30 p.m. And then we will come back later on.

So this is going to be a herky-jerky afternoon, it sounds like. But we will get this hearing done, and we will welcome the testimony of all our witnesses.

So the Committee will stand in recess.

[Recess.]

Mr. GOODLATTE. Take two. The Subcommittee will come to order, and I recognize myself for an opening statement.

For the better part of the past decade, this Committee has been working to update our patent laws to ensure that the incentives our Framers envisioned when they wrote article 1, section 8 of our Constitution remain meaningful and effective. The U.S. patent system must work efficiently if America is to remain the world leader in innovation.

It is only right that as more and more inventions with increasing complexity emerge, we examine our Nation's patent laws to ensure that they still work efficiently and that they still encourage and not discourage innovation.

(1)

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