Calendar No. 485

108TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

S. 2237

To amend chapter 5 of title 17, United States Code, to authorize civil copyright enforcement by the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

March 25, 2004

Mr. Leahy (for himself and Mr. Hatch) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

April 29, 2004

Reported by Mr. HATCH without amendment

A BILL

To amend chapter 5 of title 17, United States Code, to authorize civil copyright enforcement by the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Protecting Intellectual
- 5 Rights Against Theft and Expropriation Act of 2004".

1 SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF CIVIL COPYRIGHT ENFORCE2 MENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.

- 3 (a) In General.—Chapter 5 of title 17, United
- 4 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 506 the
- 5 following:

6 "§ 506a. Civil penalties for violations of section 506

- 7 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may com-
- 8 mence a civil action in the appropriate United States dis-
- 9 trict court against any person who engages in conduct con-
- 10 stituting an offense under section 506. Upon proof of such
- 11 conduct by a preponderance of the evidence, such person
- 12 shall be subject to a civil penalty under section 504 which
- 13 shall be in an amount equal to the amount which would
- 14 be awarded under section 3663(a)(1)(B) of title 18 and
- 15 restitution to the copyright owner aggrieved by the con-
- 16 duct.
- 17 "(b) OTHER REMEDIES.—
- 18 "(1) In general.—Imposition of a civil pen-
- alty under this section does not preclude any other
- criminal or civil statutory, injunctive, common law or
- administrative remedy, which is available by law to
- the United States or any other person;
- 23 "(2) Offset.—Any restitution received by a
- copyright owner as a result of a civil action brought
- 25 under this section shall be offset against any award
- of damages in a subsequent copyright infringement

1	civil action by that copyright owner for the conduct
2	that gave rise to the civil action brought under this
3	section.".
4	(b) Damages and Profits.—Section 504 of title 17,
5	United States Code, is amended—
6	(1) in subsection (b)—
7	(A) in the first sentence—
8	(i) by inserting ", or the Attorney
9	General in a civil action," after "The copy-
10	right owner"; and
11	(ii) by striking "him or her" and in-
12	serting "the copyright owner"; and
13	(B) in the second sentence by inserting ",
14	or the Attorney General in a civil action," after
15	"the copyright owner"; and
16	(2) in subsection (e)—
17	(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting ", or the
18	Attorney General in a civil action," after "the
19	copyright owner"; and
20	(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting ", or
21	the Attorney General in a civil action," after
22	"the copyright owner".
23	(e) Technical and Conforming Amendment.—
24	The table of sections for chanter 5 of title 17 United

1	States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relat-
2	ing to section 506 the following:
	"506a. Civil penalties for violation of section 506.".
3	SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDING FOR TRAINING AND
4	PILOT PROGRAM.
5	(a) Training and Pilot Program.—Not later than
6	180 days after enactment of this Act, the Attorney Gen-
7	eral shall develop a program to ensure effective implemen-
8	tation and use of the authority for civil enforcement of
9	the copyright laws by—
10	(1) establishing training programs, including
11	practical training and written materials, for qualified
12	personnel from the Department of Justice and
13	United States Attorneys Offices to educate and in-
14	form such personnel about—
15	(A) resource information on intellectual
16	property and the legal framework established
17	both to protect and encourage creative works as
18	well as legitimate uses of information and
19	rights under the first amendment of the United
20	States Constitution;
21	(B) the technological challenges to pro-
22	tecting digital copyrighted works from online pi-
23	racy;
24	(C) guidance on and support for bringing
25	copyright enforcement actions against persons

1	engaging in infringing conduct, including model
2	charging documents and related litigation mate-
3	rials;
4	(D) strategic issues in copyright enforce-
5	ment actions, including whether to proceed in a
6	criminal or a civil action;
7	(E) how to employ and leverage the exper-
8	tise of technical experts in computer forensics;
9	(F) the collection and preservation of elec-
10	tronic data in a forensically sound manner for
11	use in court proceedings;
12	(G) the role of the victim copyright owner
13	in providing relevant information for enforce-
14	ment actions and in the computation of dam-
15	ages; and
16	(H) the appropriate use of injunctions, im-
17	poundment, forfeiture, and related authorities
18	in copyright law;
19	(2) designating personnel from at least 4
20	United States Attorneys Offices to participate in a
21	pilot program designed to implement the civil en-
22	forcement authority of the Attorney General under
23	section 506a of title 17, United States Code, as
24	added by this Act; and
25	(3) reporting to Congress annually on—

1	(A) the use of the civil enforcement au-
2	thority of the Attorney General under section
3	506a of title 17, United States Code, as added
4	by this Act; and
5	(B) the progress made in implementing the
6	training and pilot programs described under
7	paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection.
8	(b) Annual Report.—The report under subsection
9	(a)(3) may be included in the annual performance report
10	of the Department of Justice and shall include—
11	(1) with respect to civil actions filed under sec-
12	tion 506a of title 17, United States Code, as added
13	by this Act—
14	(A) the number of investigative matters re-
15	ceived by the Department of Justice and United
16	States Attorneys Offices;
17	(B) the number of defendants involved in
18	those matters;
19	(C) the number of civil actions filed and
20	the number of defendants involved;
21	(D) the number of civil actions resolved or
22	terminated;
23	(E) the number of defendants involved in
24	those civil actions;

1	(F) the disposition of those civil actions,
2	including whether the civil actions were settled,
3	dismissed, or resolved after a trial;
4	(G) the dollar value of any civil penalty im-
5	posed and the amount remitted to any copy-
6	right owner; and
7	(H) other information that the Attorney
8	General may consider relevant to inform Con-
9	gress on the effective use of the civil enforce-
10	ment authority;
11	(2) a description of the training program and
12	the number of personnel who participated in the pro-
13	gram; and
14	(3) the locations of the United States Attorneys
15	Offices designated to participate in the pilot pro-
16	gram.
17	(c) Authorization of Appropriations.—There
18	are authorized to be appropriated \$2,000,000 for fiscal
19	year 2005 to carry out this section.

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