

bad ideas in this legislation, this post grant litigation process is probably the worst.

The principal victims of these and other Patent Reform Act of 2007 proposals will be small entity inventors—small businesses, individual inventors, universities and non-profit research organizations. Their patents are often the greatest, if not only, assets they hold. Most often, they need ownership of an unchallenged patent in order to get financing to actually develop it. And, when their patent secrets are stolen and used by larger infringers, they are generally unable to finance a lawsuit, particularly if the infringer operates outside the United States.

Yet, it is small entity inventors who file almost 30 percent of all U.S.-origin patent applications and receive 31 percent of all patents granted. Unlike the Big Tech companies, most of these innovators keep their R&D and production in the U.S. They are vital to America's future. But they are fragile. Special consideration of their situation and needs is in the nation's best interest.

Fortunately, many U.S. groups and organizations oppose the Patent Reform Act of 2007. Included are the National Association of Manufacturers, the U.S. Business and Industrial Council, more than 450 venture capital firms, the Big Ten universities, plus dozens of other organizations. The Department of Commerce and the USPTO have written Congress that they do not support eliminating the 18-month opt-out rule, changing to a first-to-file system, altering the apportionment provision or creating a new litigation forum. Unfortunately, all this opposition has mattered little so far and this dangerous legislation is still moving forth in the House and Senate Judiciary Committees.

Each Member of Congress needs to closely examine the Patent Reform Act of 2007 for it will deeply affect every state, every community and every congressional district. We face a historic economic challenge in the global economy. Now is the time for Congress to strengthen U.S. patent protections rather than weaken them.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. People need to know that H.R. 1908 will be coming to the floor on Friday. I call it the "Steal America's Technology Act," and we need to defeat this bill. We need to have the support of the public and of our colleagues, and we are asking for that support today.

I would like to close with one story. It is a story of a statue of a man downstairs. If someone is going through the Capitol, he needs to look at the statue. There are many statues here, but it is a statue of a man named Philo Farnsworth. He was the personification of an individual inventor. He discovered, with his creative genius, the picture tube, the secret that created the picture tube for television. RCA had spent hundreds of millions of dollars trying to find that secret. Philo Farnsworth made the mistake of trusting David Sarnoff, the head of RCA, with the secret, thinking we are going to work together to develop this for all humankind.

Sarnoff immediately cut off all communications with this man and tried to steal this invention, claiming credit for RCA itself. For 20 years, poor Philo Farnsworth, the personification of the little guy, was being beaten down by David Sarnoff because he didn't want to pay the royalties or give the credit to this one little guy, this one lone American.

That case went all the way to the Supreme Court, and the Supreme Court, God bless America, sided with the little guy, sided with Philo Farnsworth and reaffirmed that we are talking about rights that are guaranteed by our Constitution for all our citizens, the big guys and the little guys.

This bill, H.R. 1908, is a big guys' bill designed by the big guys to steal from the little guys and in the long run it will hurt all Americans.

I proudly stand by MARCY KAPTUR and Mr. MANZULLO and others who will be leading, helping us fight this back on Friday. We need everyone's support. We need all constituents to talk to their Congressman on this issue.

Ms. KAPTUR. I thank the gentleman for yielding me time this evening, and I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the patent bill coming up on Friday. Don't weaken U.S. patent protections that are based on our Constitution. Give our inventors and their creativity a chance to flourish for the next generation.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WALZ of Minnesota). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WALZ of Minnesota) at 9 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of travel problems.

Mr. PLATTS (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of attending a funeral for a soldier killed in action in Afghanistan.

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of illness.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MCGOVERN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LIPINSKI, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. LATOURETTE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. POE, for 5 minutes, September 12.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, September 12.

Mr. REICHERT, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to House Resolution 632, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable PAUL E. GILLMOR.

There was no objection.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 19 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, September 6, 2007, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3110. A letter from the Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense, transmitting Notice of the decision to conduct a standard competition of the Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory function at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, Pope Air Force Base, North Carolina, and Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2461; to the Committee on Armed Services.

3111. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Reserve Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting the National Guard Challenge Program Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2006, pursuant to 32 U.S.C. 509(k); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3112. A letter from the Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's quarterly report as of June 30, 2007, entitled, "Acceptance of contributions for defense programs, projects and activities; Defense Cooperation Account," pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2608; to the Committee on Armed Services.

3113. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of the enclosed list of officers to wear the insignia of the grade of major general accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

3114. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, certification regarding the proposed technical assistance agreement for the export of technical data, defense services, and defense articles to the Government of Singapore (Transmittal No. DDTC 008-07); to the Committee on Armed Services.

3115. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a copy of proposed legislation entitled the Native American and Native Hawaiian Housing Reauthorization and Improvements Act of 2007; to the Committee on Financial Services.

3116. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a copy of proposed legislation