Patent Public Advisory Committee
Quarterly Meeting
Legislative/Governmental Affairs Update
Branden Ritchie
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May 2, 2019
The 116th Congress
Leadership of the House/Senate Judiciary committees

**U.S. House of Representatives**

*Committee on the Judiciary*

Jerry Nadler (D-NY-10), Chairman  
Doug Collins (R-GA-9), Ranking Member

*Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet*

Hank Johnson (D-GA-4), Chairman  
Martha Roby (R-AL-2), Ranking Member

**U.S. Senate**

*Committee on the Judiciary*

Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Chairman  
Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Ranking Member

*Subcommittee on Intellectual Property*

Thom Tillis (R-NC), Chairman  
Christopher Coons (D-DE), Ranking Member
Congressional focus

- Congress’ efforts have been focused on oversight, nominations (in the Senate), and legislation.
Oversight activity related to USPTO

Legislative activity

Hot issues in Congress related to patents

• Drug Pricing
• Section 101 reform

*USPTO is aggressively monitoring all legislative activity to identify IP-related matters.
Legislative priorities

- Work with Congress on section 101 reform
- Investment authority for USPTO’s internal operating reserve
- Elevate IP attaché rank
- Clarify statutory authority regarding operations during interruptions
Questions and comments

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