

**UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



Legislative/governmental affairs update

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Patent Public Advisory Committee quarterly meeting

UNITED STATES
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The 116th Congress



- USPTO-related hearings:
 - House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet: The Patent Trial and Appeal Board and the Appointments Clause: Implications of Recent Court Decisions (November 19, 2019)
 - Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Intellectual Property: Fraudulent Trademarks: How They Undermine the Trademark System and Harm American Consumers and Businesses (December 3, 2019)
 - House Small Business Committee: Enhancing Patent Diversity for America's Innovators (January 15, 2020)

Legislative activity

116th Congress

- Hot issues in Congress related to patents:
 - Inventor Rights Act (H.R. 5478)
 - Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act (S. 2814)
 - Counterfeit Goods Seizure Act of 2019 (S. 2987)
 - Patent-related drug pricing legislation
- **Federal Budget FY2020: (P.L. 116-93) (December 20, 2019)**
 - Provides \$3.45 billion for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
- *Arthrex* Decision
- Section 101 reform
- The USPTO is actively monitoring these efforts



Legislative activity

116th Congress

- Study of Underrepresented Classes Chasing Engineering and Science Success (SUCCESS) Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-273)
- The USPTO submitted the study to Congress as required by the SUCCESS Act on October 31, 2019
- Available on the USPTO website

Legislative activity

116th Congress

- The USPTO's legislative priorities:
 - Continuity of service during lapse in funding
 - Elevate IP attaché rank
 - Work with Congress on section 101 reform
 - Ensure that congressional efforts to rein in drug prices do not cause harm to the patent system
 - Extension of USPTO's TEAPP telework program
 - Address *Arthrex* decision



Thank you!

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