Legislative/governmental affairs update

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Legislative activity
116th Congress

• Telework for U.S. Innovation Act (H.R. 7448/S. 4138)
  – Would make the USPTO’s authority to conduct TEAPP permanent
  – Update

• Trademark Modernization Act 2020 (H.R. 6196/S. 3449)
  – Update
  – China Task Force Act (H.R. 12) – Comprehensive legislation to respond to threats from China, which includes the Trademark Modernization Act

• Stopgap funding (H.R. 8319)
  – Extends government funding through December 11, 2020
116th Congress

• State Sovereign Immunity Study
  – In response to a request from Congress, the USPTO is “study[ing] the extent to which patent or trademark owners are experiencing infringement by state entities without adequate remedies under state law”
  – The USPTO will be issuing a Federal Register Notice seeking information and relevant evidence from external stakeholders, including the states, IP owners, and others in the coming weeks
Legislative activity
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• USPTO’s legislative priorities
  – IP attaché rank
  – TEAPP extension
  – Monitor/provide technical assistance regarding pending trademark-related legislation
Thank you!

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