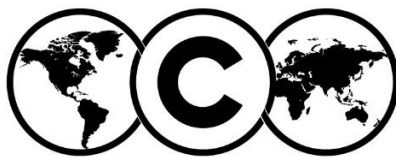


# INTERNATIONAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ALLIANCE®



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## **Statement of the International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) on Pending Free Trade Agreements**

**Washington, DC** — The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) applauds the Senate Finance Committee for scheduling action Thursday on implementing legislation for the Free Trade Agreements with Korea, Colombia, and Panama. IIPA counsel released the following statement:

“We commend the Finance Committee, under the leadership of Senator Baucus, for this significant milestone toward the ratification of the Korea, Colombia, and Panama Free Trade Agreements. These three historic Agreements are major steps forward for U.S. jobs and exports, including for the vital industry sectors that depend on copyright protection. The Agreements contain critical protections for copyright in the digital age, necessary to foster healthy growth of U.S. creativity and innovation, produce well-paying jobs in the creative and information sectors, and increase exports around the world of our nation’s creative and cultural goods and services. We urge both the Senate and the House of Representatives to act swiftly in the weeks to come to bring these critical Agreements into force as soon as possible.”

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**About the IIPA:** The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) is a coalition of seven trade associations – Association of American Publishers (AAP), Business Software Alliance (BSA), Entertainment Software Association (ESA), Independent Film & Television Alliance (IFTA), Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), National Music Publishers' Association (NMPA) and the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) – which represent the U.S. copyright-based industries in bilateral and multilateral efforts to open up foreign markets closed by piracy and other market access barriers. These member associations represent over 1,900 U.S. companies producing and distributing materials protected by copyright laws throughout the world—all types of computer software, including business applications software and entertainment software (such as videogame discs and cartridges, personal computer CD-ROMs, and multimedia products); theatrical films, television programs, DVDs and home video and digital representations of audiovisual works; music, records, CDs, and audiocassettes; and textbooks, trade books, reference and professional publications and journals (in both electronic and print media). The core copyright-based industries in the U.S. represent over 6% of the U.S. gross domestic product; employed 5.6 million U.S. workers in 2007, who earned average salaries 30% higher than the U.S. workforce average; and accounted for some \$126 billion in exports and foreign sales that year, leading other major industry sectors. For more information, see our website at [www.iipa.com](http://www.iipa.com).