



April 3, 2025

The Honorable Charles Grassley, Chairman
United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dick Durbin, Ranking Member
United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Durbin, and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

Consumer Action for a Strong Economy (CASE) writes today to express our organization's support for maintaining and strengthening intellectual property (IP) protections, which are essential to driving American innovation, economic growth, and global competitiveness.

Strong IP protections are indispensable to America's economy. Our historical respect for IP rights drives innovation and growth across sectors, delivering countless benefits to American citizens.

Innovation is a resource-intensive process, requiring years of research, significant financial investment, and regulatory approvals before new advancements can reach the public. A balanced IP system encourages this progress by allowing inventors to protect their work while also ensuring competition and accessibility. Thanks to this system, the United States has led the world in medicine, developing pioneering treatments for life-threatening diseases.

Misguided narratives – like those around perceived “product hopping” – suggest that legitimate advancements in technology and medicine are merely attempts to block out competition. In reality, continued research and development (R&D) around approved drugs is crucial to improving the effectiveness, safety, applicability, and accessibility of products that benefit millions of people. Attempts to weaken patent protections ignore the many positive downstream effects of strong IP rights.

Policymakers must focus on solutions that preserve the integrity of the IP system while addressing real barriers to consumer access. Structural challenges within our healthcare system, such as the role of greedy middlemen in driving up costs, should be the focus of reform efforts, rather than dismantling the very framework that fosters innovation.

We urge policymakers to prioritize policies that reinforce IP protections, promote competition, and sustain America's legacy of innovation for future generations. As such, your committee should reject the Drug Competition Enhancement Act (S. 1040) and any other legislation that would undermine our strong, predictable, and fair patent system.

Sincerely,

Consumer Action for a Strong Economy (CASE)

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