

September 5, 2023

The Honorable Dick Durbin
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
211 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

We write to express resolute support for the confirmation of Deborah Robinson to serve as the fourth Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator (IPEC) of the United States.

Congress created the IPEC in 2008 with the unanimous support of the Senate to ensure that every White House prioritizes intellectual property enforcement. As the Patent and Trademark Office noted in its latest national study, industries that intensively use intellectual property account for 41% of domestic economic activity and support more than more than 62 million American jobs, or 44% of U.S. total employment. Relative to other sectors of the economy, Americans who work in the IP-intensive industries earn higher wages, participate at higher rates in employer-sponsored health insurance and retirement plans, and are more likely to be veterans. To protect the work of these American artists, inventors, and entrepreneurs, the IPEC must craft, report to Congress on, and effectively implement a comprehensive approach to intellectual property enforcement among more than a dozen federal agencies.

Deborah Robinson will excel in this role.

We support her confirmation because of her depth of experience and expertise. Robinson will uniquely bring a real-world background in enforcement to the role, having worked both as an accomplished public prosecutor and in private sector IP enforcement. From her time in the Philadelphia District Attorney's office to her tenure atop Viacom's global IP enforcement team in New York, Robinson has expertly managed large and experienced enforcement teams. She has earned numerous professional accolades and continues to volunteer her time with community and professional organizations.

Robinson has earned the respect and support of the diverse cross-section of stakeholders signing this letter because she is ready to defend the rights and the jobs that depend on effective intellectual property enforcement. We stand ready to support her and look forward to the interagency coordination her leadership will bring to lead the Administration.

We urge the Senate to move expeditiously on Deborah Robinson's confirmation and offer our full support.

Sincerely,

Adobe
Advance
American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA)
American Association of Independent Music (A2IM)
American Photographic Artists (APA)
American Society for Collective Rights Licensing (ASCRL)

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP)
Artist Rights Alliance (ARA)
Association of American Publishers (AAP)
Authors Guild
Church Music Publishers Association (CMPA)
Copyright Alliance
CreativeFuture
Digital Creators Coalition (DCC)
Directors Guild of America (DGA)
Entertainment Software Association (ESA)
Fashion Jewelry & Accessories Trade Association (FJATA)
Independent Film & Television Alliance (IFTA)
International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE)
International AntiCounterfeiting Coalition (IACC)
International Association of Scientific, Technical, and Medical Publishers (STM)
International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA)
International Trademark Association (INTA)
Major League Baseball (MLB)
Motion Picture Association (MPA)
Music Artists Coalition (MAC)
Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI)
National Association of Voice Actors (NAVA)
National Basketball Association (NBA)
National Football League (NFL)
National Music Publishers' Association (NMPA)
News/Media Alliance (NMA)
Paramount Global
Professional Photographers of America (PPA)
Recording Academy
Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA)
Screen Actors Guild – American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA)
SESAC Music Group
Society of Composers & Lyricists (SCL)
Songwriters Guild of America (SGA)
Songwriters Of North America (SONA)
SoundExchange
The Partnership for Safe Medicines
The Toy Association
Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT)
Universal Music Group (UMG)
U.S. Chamber of Commerce Global Innovation Policy Center (GIPC)