November 7, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America and its member companies—Paramount Pictures Corp., Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc., Twentieth Century Fox Film Corp., NBCUniversal, Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures, and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.—I write in support of Daniel Marti for the position of Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator. Mr. Marti’s experience should serve him well in his role as the Administration’s representative tasked with coordinating strategies to protect intellectual property, an asset upon which millions of Americans’ livelihoods depend.

With this Committee’s foresight and leadership, Congress created the position of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator as part of the 2008 bi-partisan PRO-IP Act. Since enactment, the office has made important contributions toward reinforcing the collective responsibility that the federal government and private stakeholders share in protecting intellectual property. Not only must the IPEC ensure that enforcement goals are set and implemented across numerous agencies of the Federal Government, he or she must continue to facilitate the negotiation of voluntary initiatives to combat intellectual property theft. Our economy depends on creative goods and services, and without meaningful enforcement at the highest level, American jobs and our standing in the international community will suffer.

As you know, this vital office has been without a Coordinator since August 2013. We stand ready to work with you and the Committee on this important nomination and urge Mr. Marti’s nomination receives consideration without delay.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Dodd