



Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO

November 3, 2011

Re: Please Co-Sponsor the PROTECT IP Act, S. 968

Dear Senator:

On behalf of hundreds of thousands of creators, performers, and craftspeople, I write to ask that you co-sponsor the PROTECT IP Act, the Preventing Real Online Threats to Economic Creativity and Theft of Intellectual Property Act (S. 968), a priority for organized labor.

To join the 38 Senators from both parties already on record in support of the bill, please call Aaron Cooper of the Senate Judiciary Committee at 202-224-7703. If you are among those 38, please accept my profound thanks and forgive this additional letter.

Earlier this year AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka applauded the introduction of the PROTECT IP Act: "The economic well-being of workers in the United States – jobs, income and benefits – turns more and more on our protecting the creativity and innovation that yield world-class entertainment, cutting-edge and sustainable manufacturing and construction, and disease-ending pharmaceuticals."

Among the 22 national unions affiliated with the Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO (DPE) are nine that represent professionals in the arts, entertainment, and media: Actors' Equity Association (AEA), the American Federation of Musicians (AFM), the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA), the American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA), the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts (IATSE), the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), the Office and Professional Employees International Union (OPEIU), the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) and the Writers Guild of America, East (WGAE).

The people whom these unions represent recognize the threat that content theft poses. These unions unanimously support the PROTECT IP Act.

The bi-partisan introduction of the Stop Online Piracy Act, H.R. 3261, on October 26 provides a companion bill for the PROTECT IP Act. It opens the way to a law that will support U.S. jobs and incomes.

For more information, please contact me or DPE Executive Director David Cohen at 202-638-0320. I look forward to your support for the PROTECT IP Act. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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President

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