

UNITED *for* PATENT REFORM

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Congressionally Created PTO Procedures to Review Invalid Patents Are Celebrated by Job Creating U.S. Businesses

The following statement may be attributed to the United for Patent Reform coalition:

Washington, DC – After nearly a decade’s worth of debate and multi stakeholder input, Congress passed the 2011 bipartisan America Invents Act (AIA). Among the reforms created by the AIA was the inter partes review (IPR) process. IPR sought to restore public confidence in a patent system that had been plagued by invalid patents, which in turn fueled a boom in abusive litigation, stifled innovation, and drained the economy.

Going into its sixth year of existence, the IPR process has proven to be a success. Members of United for Patent Reform (UFPR) – the group made up of hundreds of companies and trade associations from nearly every sector of the U.S. economy - have come to rely on the IPR procedures as a vital tool to defend against unwarranted patent assertion claims. IPR has allowed the PTO to correct past mistakes and improve overall patent quality. Though patent litigation remains high and abuse a concern for UFPR members, IPR has contributed to a noticeable decline in abusive suits from the skyrocketing peaks just prior to its creation.

UFPR members look forward to working with Director Iancu to maintain IPR and other necessary tools and administrative processes at PTO that have brought stability to the patent ecosystem over these past few years.

About United for Patent Reform

United for Patent Reform is a broad coalition of diverse American businesses—from national Realtor, construction, and technology businesses to Main Street retail shops, automobile manufacturers, hotels, grocers, convenience stores, and restaurants—pursuing comprehensive solutions to abusive patent litigation. For more information, visit www.UnitedforPatentReform.com and follow us on Twitter at [@U4PatentReform](https://twitter.com/U4PatentReform).