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USPTO Urges Senate to Pass the America Invents Act

Washington – Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent Office (USPTO) David Kappos today issued the following statement in anticipation of a Senate floor vote on S. 23, the America Invents Act of 2011.

“We are encouraged by the Senate’s progress thus far on S. 23, the America Invents Act of 2011, and we urge the Senate to pass this crucial legislation. We also look forward to further action in the House, which will help to deliver a 21st century patent system that better equips the USPTO to move innovative ideas with sound patent protection to the marketplace. We urge the House of Representatives to act on this legislation quickly, so that America's innovators can benefit from these reforms as they work to turn their ideas into new businesses and new jobs.

“As a report on the patent system issued yesterday by the Federal Trade Commission recommends, for our patent system to best serve America’s innovators, it is essential that the USPTO have adequate funding to address the backlog of patent applications – one of the key reforms this legislation would make possible.”

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