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November 3, 2009

Chairman Patrick Leahy
433 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy:

The forty-plus unions, corporations, trade associations and artists' alliances of the Copyright Alliance welcome the Senate Judiciary Committee's November 4th nomination hearing for Victoria Espinel as the first Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator (IPEC). We strongly urge the committee to endorse her nomination and the full Senate to move just as rapidly to vote to confirm. Given the state of the U.S. economy, there should be no further delay in her mission to better protect U.S. intellectual property, which makes significant contributions to our nation's economic recovery.

The Copyright Alliance strongly endorsed the choice of Ms. Espinel by President Barack Obama. With her wealth of experience advising Congress and the Administration on intellectual property matters, we felt she was a perfect choice for the important post created last year in the PRO-IP Act, which became law thanks to the leadership of the House and Senate Judiciary Committees. We welcomed the Obama Administration taking this important step toward improving the coordination of the federal government's resources for intellectual property promotion and enforcement, as envisioned in the PRO-IP Act.

We urge the rapid confirmation of Ms. Espinel, and hope that after she begins her historic assignment, all government officials with a stake in intellectual property enforcement will cooperate fully with her in better protecting and promoting such a critical element of our nation's economic growth and job creation

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Ross'.

Patrick Ross
Executive Director
Copyright Alliance