



December 5, 2007

The Honorable John Conyers  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lamar Smith  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Howard Berman  
Chairman  
Courts, the Internet and Intellectual Property Subcommittee  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Conyers, Ranking Member Smith, and Chairman Berman:

The Coalition Against Counterfeiting and Piracy (CACCP) commends you and your committee colleagues for introducing and sponsoring of H.R. 4279, the "Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property Act of 2007." CACP strongly supports this legislation. Intellectual property (IP) is the cornerstone of our nation's economy—U.S. IP is valued between \$5 trillion and 5.5 trillion, equivalent to approximately 45% of the United States' GDP—and we thank you for taking steps to protect this valuable national asset.

The CACP's members, currently numbering over 500 businesses and associations, represent thousands of copyright and trademark owners whose intellectual property assets are targets of counterfeiters and pirates. It has been estimated that counterfeiting and piracy cost our economy more than \$250 billion annually, severely impacting small and big businesses alike. The issue is not purely economic loss, however. Every product in every industry is vulnerable. From fake batteries in smoke detectors, fake brake pads on cars, counterfeit circuit breakers, to fake shampoo, these illicit products have serious health and safety implications for American consumers.

In June, to respond to this burgeoning problem, the CACP launched an aggressive and comprehensive legislative campaign, the *Campaign to Protect America*, to transform the enforcement of U.S. intellectual property rights. We are happy to see that many of the campaign's proposals are included in this legislation, the enactment of which will result in a more effective national effort to crack down on counterfeiting and piracy.

The CACP thanks you again for sponsoring the "Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property Act of 2007," and looks forward to working with you and your committee colleagues to ensure passage of this important piece of legislation. For more information about the CACP, please visit [www.theCACCP.com](http://www.theCACCP.com).

Sincerely,

The Coalition Against Counterfeiting and Piracy

Cc: Members of the Committee on the Judiciary