



ACTION for Trade: Thank You Senators Hatch and Nelson for Your Commitment to IP Rights

WASHINGTON (April 13) – Today, ACTION for Trade executive director Brian Pomper issued the following statement in support of a [letter](#) sent by Sens. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, and Bill Nelson, D-Fla., to U.S. Trade Ambassador Robert Lighthizer that called for stronger copyright protections in NAFTA:

"ACTION for Trade would like to thank Senators Hatch and Nelson for supporting the inclusion of stronger IP protections and enforcement measures in NAFTA.

"The Senators' letter to Ambassador Lighthizer reminds us of the value that U.S. creators and innovators deliver for our nation. Strong IP protections, such as stricter enforcement of copyright online for authors, publishers, recording artists, software developers, and film and television producers will ensure that these industries continue to thrive and make creative works and products that benefit us all.

"ACTION for Trade also would like to thank Senator Hatch for his continued support for 12 years of data exclusivity for biologic drugs for pharmaceutical researchers. This protection is crucial to ensuring that researchers continue to develop these lifesaving medicines.

"As Ambassador Lighthizer seeks to conclude negotiations, Senators Hatch and Nelson delivered an important message that implementing strong IP protections will help fulfill the administration's goal of modernizing NAFTA and will drive exports, jobs, and growth in the American economy."