

June 24, 2026

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Chairman
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Peter-Anthony Pappas to U.S. International Trade Commission

Dear Chairman Crapo, Ranking Member Wyden, and Members of the Committee:

The Intellectual Property Policy Institute (IPPI) at The University of Akron School of Law and the undersigned IPPI scholars and affiliates and selected law and engineering professors submit this letter in support of the nomination of Peter-Anthony Pappas to be a Member of the United States International Trade Commission (USITC or Commission). Mr. Pappas's significant intellectual property (IP) policy and enforcement expertise as well as his public service background make him exceptionally well qualified to serve on the Commission, which is an increasingly important venue for the enforcement of intellectual property rights.

IPPI brings together a community of IP scholars, policymakers, and industry stakeholders that recognize the value of intellectual property rights and their effective enforcement – a key function of the USITC. Through its administration of Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, the USITC now serves as a critically important forum for the adjudication of intellectual property and unfair trade disputes due to its provision of meaningful and effective relief. The importance of intellectual property rights has long been central to U.S. international trade policy, and thus it is concerning that the USITC has operated for more than a decade with significantly less than a full slate of Commissioners. It is, therefore, crucial that the Commission have a full, Senate-confirmed compliment of qualified nominees like Mr. Pappas serving current terms, to execute and uphold its mission and maintain American leadership in innovation and competitiveness in the global market.

During his years of public service, Mr. Pappas has not only demonstrated a strong understanding and appreciation of the importance of intellectual property rights to innovation and the U.S. economy but also has served as a significant contributor to the development of intellectual property law and policy. Additionally, while not a requirement to work in IP, Mr. Pappas's strong science and engineering background is helpful for understanding the types of technologies that will come before the Commission. Mr. Pappas is a graduate of one of the top engineering schools in the nation, the Georgia Institute of Technology. Furthermore, his degree in electrical and computer engineering is one of the most diverse disciplines within the engineering field. This gives him a detailed understanding of a wide range of topics, including engineering, physics, computational science, and chemistry, backgrounds that will be very useful for the USITC.

We have interacted with Mr. Pappas throughout the years, both in small discussion sessions and

at public events, and he has always been thoughtful, with both great understanding of key issues and a willingness to listen and learn where appropriate. Through Mr. Pappas's experience at virtually all levels of the USPTO, as well as his service as a Professional Staff Member Detailee for the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary for U.S. Senator Thom Tillis, he has developed unparalleled technical expertise that will be invaluable to the Commission's intellectual property-based import investigations and research. We are confident that, if confirmed, Mr. Pappas will provide invaluable leadership and expertise at the Commission as it carries out the important work of administering trade law and providing world-class analysis on international trade issues.

Therefore, we respectfully request the Committee give Mr. Pappas' nomination full and fair consideration and work to swiftly confirm him for this important role. Thank you for your consideration of our perspective. We look forward to supporting Mr. Pappas throughout his confirmation process.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kristina M. L. Acri, née Lybecker
Gerald L. Schlessman Professor of Economics
Department of Economics & Business
The Colorado College
Senior Scholar, IPPI: The IP Policy Institute

Mark A. Cohen
China IP Strategies, LLC
Senior Technology Fellow
Asia Society Northern California and Seattle
Senior Fellow for China IP & Scholar
IPPI: The IP Policy Institute
The University of Akron School of Law

Michael L. Doane
Assistant Professor of Law
Scholar, IPPI: The IP Policy Institute
The University of Akron School of Law

Dr. William Alan Doolittle
John Slaughter Chair for Semiconductors
School of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology

Bowman Heiden, PhD
Executive Director
Tusher Strategic Initiative for Technology Leadership
Institute for Business Innovation
Haas School of Business, University of California Berkeley
Scholar, IPPI: The IP Policy Institute

Chris J. Katopis
Adjunct Professor
George Washington
University Law Center

Joshua Kresh
Research Professor & Executive Director
IPPI: The IP Policy Institute
The University of Akron School of Law

Daryl Lim
H. Laddie Montague Jr. Chair in Law
Associate Dean for Research and Strategic Partnerships
Founding Director, Intellectual Property Law and Innovation Initiative
Penn State Dickinson Law
Co-Hire, Institute for Computation and Data Sciences
Affiliate, Center for Socially Responsible Artificial Intelligence
Penn State University
Senior Scholar, IPPI: The IP Policy Institute

Emily Michiko Morris
David L. Brennan Professor of Law
Associate Faculty Chair, Senior Fellow for Life Sciences, & Senior Scholar
IPPI: The IP Policy Institute
The University of Akron School of Law

Kristen Jakobsen Osenga
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Julie & John Nowak Faculty Research Scholar and Professor of Law
University of Richmond School of Law
Senior Fellow for Innovation Policy & Senior Scholar
IPPI: The IP Policy Institute
The University of Akron School of Law

Dr. Alexander Raskovich
Senior Economist
IPPI: The IP Policy Institute
The University of Akron School of Law

Mark F. Schultz
Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company Chair in Intellectual Property Law
Faculty Chair & Senior Scholar
IPPI: The IP Policy Institute
The University of Akron School of Law