

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Steven Metalitzmet@msk.com

(202) 355-7902

**Statement of the International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA)
on the State of the Union Address**

Washington, D.C. — The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) applauds President Obama's call, in tonight's State of the Union Address, for Congress to approve the Korea-US Free Trade Agreement (KORUS FTA) "as soon as possible." This agreement is a significant step forward for U.S. jobs, exports, and the economy as a whole, including for the critical industry sectors that depend on copyright protection. On the issues of copyright law reform and copyright enforcement, the KORUS FTA is one of the strongest and most progressive trade agreements ever negotiated. It also includes important steps to further open the Korean market to U.S. copyright industries. The sooner these copyright and market access provisions of the FTA come into force, and the sooner they are fully implemented by the Korean government, the sooner the positive impacts will be felt by American creators, innovators, and workers. We commend the President for tonight's announcement, and urge him to work closely with Congress to obtain rapid ratification of this landmark agreement.

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About the IIPA: The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) is a coalition of seven trade associations – Association of American Publishers (AAP), Business Software Alliance (BSA), Entertainment Software Association (ESA), Independent Film & Television Alliance (IFTA), Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), National Music Publishers' Association (NMPA) and the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) – which represent the U.S. copyright-based industries in bilateral and multilateral efforts to open up foreign markets closed by piracy and other market access barriers. These member associations represent over 1,900 U.S. companies producing and distributing materials protected by copyright laws throughout the world—all types of computer software, including business applications software and entertainment software (such as videogame discs and cartridges, personal computer CD-ROMs, and multimedia products); theatrical films, television programs, DVDs and home video and digital representations of audiovisual works; music, records, CDs, and audiocassettes; and textbooks, trade books, reference and professional publications and journals (in both electronic and print media). The core copyright-based industries in the U.S. represent over 6% of the U.S. gross domestic product; employed 5.6 million U.S. workers in 2007, who earned average salaries 30% higher than the U.S. workforce average; and accounted for some \$126 billion in exports and foreign sales that year, leading other major industry sectors. For more information, see our website at www.iipa.com.