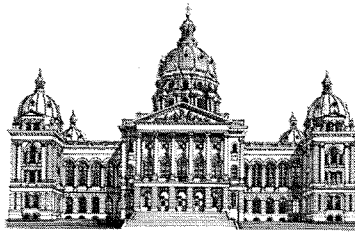


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House of Representatives
State of Iowa
Eighty-Fourth General Assembly
STATEHOUSE
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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January 17, 2012

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
210 Walnut Street
Room 721, Federal Building
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Senator Grassley,

I am writing to you today to respectfully ask you to oppose the Protect IP Act (SOPA/PIPA). Though I understand that piracy is a very real problem that hurts our country economically, I do not believe that SOPA/PIPA is the way to solve this problem.

My concern is based on the broad, unchecked power that this legislation would give to the Justice Department. The Protect IP Act would give the Justice Department the power to completely wall off websites and companies who unknowingly publish minimal amounts of pirated material. Under the proposed legislation, even a link made in comments to an article could be enough for the Justice Department to shut down a website.

Law-abiding U.S. internet companies would have to monitor everything users link to or upload or face the risk of time-consuming litigation. The censorship regulations written into these bills won't shut down pirate sites. These sites will just change their addresses and continue their criminal activities, while law-abiding companies will suffer high penalties for breaches they can't possibly control.

I appreciate your attention to this letter. Thank you for your service to our country.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Hagenow', written over a large, stylized cursive flourish.

Representative Chris Hagenow