

DEFEND IP (Deterring Extraterritorial Foreign Exploitation of Networks Damaging Intellectual Property) Act

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A Commonsense Policy to Combat Foreign Criminals, Safeguard Free Expression, Protect American Consumers, and Bolster the Creative Economy

Foreign Piracy Operations Harm American Households. Visitors to illegal foreign online services are victimized by phishing, malware, ransomware, identity theft, and financial fraud.

Foreign Criminals Undermine America's Creative Industries Jobs. Stolen creative works are made available and monetized through illegal online services, robbing the legitimate economy of at least 230,000 jobs and \$29.2 billion annually.

Foreign Criminals Flout U.S. Law Enforcement. Criminal online service operators ignore or refuse to comply with U.S. legal injunctions and hide behind safe-haven foreign states, corporate shells, falsified contact details, and internet anonymity.

Dozens of Advanced Democracies Have Acted. Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, Norway, and Denmark, and more than 50 other countries have adopted legal processes to identify and block online piracy services from preying on their citizens and economies. These legal tools are used routinely and effectively.

It's Time for a New Legal Tool for the U.S. – It's Time to DEFEND IP

The DEFEND IP Act would allow U.S. Courts to direct internet service providers to block specifically identified foreign criminals from accessing U.S. internet users.

- ✓ **Only Target Foreign-Operated Websites Dedicated to Piracy.** Judicial orders would be narrowly focused to only include foreign websites found to be dedicated to large-scale digital piracy.
- ✓ **Require a Showing of Harm and Ongoing Monitoring.** Judicial orders would be temporary and require detailed evidence showing harm before any issuance or renewal.
- ✓ **Hold Service Providers Harmless for Implementing Orders.** Internet service providers would be immune from liability for implementing judicial orders and for actions of blocked criminal sites.
- ✓ **Safeguard Legitimate Websites and Free Expression.** Due process, transparency, and public interest considerations would ensure no harm to legitimate websites and consumers.