

FightonlineTheft.com

PROTECTING THE INTERNET MARKETPLACE. PROTECTING YOU.

Stop Online Piracy Act

Rep. Lamar Smith, along with Reps. John Conyers, Bob Goodlatte, Mel Watt, Howard Berman and a bipartisan group of eight original co-sponsors, introduced H.R. 3261, the Stop Online Piracy Act. This Act would help cut off foreign rogue sites that steal American jobs, hamper our economic growth, and harm our consumers.

ABOUT ROGUE SITES

Rogue sites are websites devoted to the sale of counterfeit goods or the distribution of pirated content. Their actions fundamentally threaten the foundations of America's intellectual property-intensive industries that employ more than **19 million Americans**, provide **60% of U.S. exports**, and drive our economic growth to the tune of **\$7.7 trillion in gross output**. Rogue sites steal jobs from our most creative and innovative sectors, threatening the long-term vitality of our economy. And the fakes that rogue sites offer are often shoddy or even harmful, putting consumers at risk. **Rogue sites have no place in a legitimate online market.**

Counterfeiting and piracy are already illegal. But many rogue site operators are outside of the United States, beyond the reach of our law enforcement authorities and our courts. From across our borders, they reach into our homes and businesses, abusing the Internet to steal from us. The Stop Online Piracy Act can help change all that.

KEY PROVISIONS OF THE STOP ONLINE PIRACY ACT

- The Act authorizes the U.S. Department of Justice to file a civil action against foreign rogue sites to obtain an order from the court if the site is committing or facilitating

criminal IP theft. Such an order, if granted, requires Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and search engines not to link or connect users to the rogue site and will require payment processors and online advertising networks to cut off the flow of money to the rogue site. It will get them off our computers and out of our marketplace.

- The Act provides for a notice/counter-notice system for victims of rogue sites to seek to cut off the flow of money from the U.S. to those rogue sites. If that process does not result in action, the Act gives rights owners the authority to bring action against rogue sites, but limits the court order to payment network providers and Internet advertising services. The Act also encourages and protects strategic partners when they take voluntary action to cut off rogue sites, including sites that illegally peddle prescription medication without requiring a prescription.
- The Act provides the same notice and other due process protections available in all other federal civil cases, giving the domain name owners or site operators the right to defend themselves in court. In addition, it goes even further by allowing them to return after the case is over and convince the court that the website is no longer dedicated to IP theft. And in no case does the victim of the rogue site receive any compensation for the IP theft, only an order to cut off the rogue site.

Tell Congress to act on rogue sites legislation to protect jobs and consumers!
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