

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver
Proclamation No. CP11-0814

In support of locating a satellite United States Patent and Trademark Office in Denver, Colorado

WHEREAS, the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act was signed into law by President Obama on September 16, 2011, authorizing the United States Patent and Trademark Office to establish three or more satellite offices throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of satellite patent offices is to: increase outreach activities to better connect patent filers and innovators with the patent office, improve recruitment of patent examiners, enhance patent examiner retention, decrease the number of patent applications waiting for examination, and improve the quality of patent examination; and

WHEREAS, Denver's central location in the Western region, with the nation's fifth busiest airport, will allow for a greater connection between innovators and the patent office, eliminating the need for innovators to travel across the country, as well as expediting the processing of patent applications from an average of three years to approximately one year; and

WHEREAS, Denver is already home to more than 20 federally funded research labs, nationally acclaimed healthcare facilities, and top rated universities, as well as an abundance of high-technology businesses in a wide range of industries, making Denver not only the ideal city from which to draw the scientific and technically knowledgeable personnel required to become new patent examiners, but also an already strong engine of innovation and a likely source of much of the business that a new satellite patent office will handle; and

WHEREAS, a satellite office will create a significant economic impact in Denver and the Denver region, not only by creating approximately 100 new patent examiner jobs and other support staff positions, but also by attracting new businesses and new innovation to metro Denver that are inherent in and a natural consequence of proximity to a patent office; and

WHEREAS, Denver currently already employs a significant number of federal employees and is recognized by many federal agencies and departments as a great place for their employees to live, due to our more than 300 days of sunshine every year, our reasonable cost of living, our family-friendly atmosphere, and our unique blend of urban sophistication with outdoor adventure.

**NOW THEREFORE,
BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

Section 1. That the Denver City Council strongly supports the efforts of Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock and our Colorado congressional delegation to locate a satellite United States Patent and Trademark Office here in Denver, Colorado.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City & County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City & County of Denver to this proclamation, and shall submit this proclamation to Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 31, 2011

PRESIDENT