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BEST SUPPORTING INDUSTRY

The world's eyes are turning to Hollywood for this week's Academy Awards, but Harvey Weinstein's not the only one waging an aggressive campaign to take home the gold. The movie industry's main trade association, the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), is making big changes to its influence operation in hopes of regaining clout in Washington.

As with the plot of any good movie, the relationship between the MPAA and the federal government has had setbacks. In 2012, the MPAA pushed hard for the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) and the Protect IP Act (PIPA), bills targeting foreign websites posting pirated content. The lobbying effort appeared to have momentum until the technology industry rallied against the legislation, arguing it would create new restrictions on American Internet companies that would choke off innovation.¹ The backlash kept the legislation from coming to a vote.

Now, the MPAA is making some cast changes. The trade association hired a new lead in-house lobbyist last August, a former chief counsel to the House Energy and Commerce Committee.² The MPAA spent \$2.16 million on federal lobbying in 2013,³ an 11 percent increase over 2012.⁴ At the end of 2013, it ended its contracts with four of its seven outside lobbying firms.⁵

The MPAA has also dramatically ramped up grants to outside groups, many of which support its lobbying agenda. Those grants, many to groups that also lobby or attempt to influence elections, skyrocketed from \$109,000 in 2009 to \$2.4 million in 2012, a 2,134 percent increase.⁶ Much of the money went to political organizations, such as the Democratic and Republican governors' associations, and to "dark money" groups that attempt to influence

¹ Jonathan Weisman, In Fight Over Piracy Bill, New Economy Rises Against Old, *New York Times*, January 18, 2012.

² Press Release, Motion Picture Association of America, Neil Fried Joins MPAA, August 1, 2013; Motion Picture Association of America, Third Quarter 2013 Lobbying Disclosure Report, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

³ Motion Picture Association of America, Lobbying Disclosure Reports, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

⁴ Motion Picture Association of America, Lobbying Disclosure Reports, First Quarter 2012-Fourth Quarter 2012, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

⁵ Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, Fourth Quarter 2013 Lobbying Termination Report on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Mitch Rose Strategic Consulting, Fourth Quarter 2013 Lobbying Termination Report on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Sentinel Worldwide, Fourth Quarter 2013 Lobbying Termination Report on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; The Nickles Group, Fourth Quarter 2013 Lobbying Termination Report on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

⁶ Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2012, filed November 15, 2013.

elections without revealing their donors, such as Americans for Tax Reform and the American Action Network.

Steven Fabrizio, the MPAA's global general counsel, has said the trade association is not currently pushing for new anti-piracy legislation,⁷ but with DVD sales declining and foreign box office increasingly critical, piracy is clearly still a top priority for the movie industry. The House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet held a hearing about online content delivery in November, featuring testimony from the MPAA on the need to protect copyright holders.⁸ The MPAA is pushing for intellectual property provisions to be part of a proposed Pacific Rim trade deal known as the Trans-Pacific Partnership,⁹ and has urged the office of the U.S. Trade Representative to add specific online and physical marketplaces to its list of the most notorious markets outside the United States for the trafficking of pirated content.¹⁰ In 2013, the MPAA also reported lobbying Congress on a wide range of other proposals ranging from federal appropriations to technology issues to a bill that would ban new private ownership of large cats and could potentially affect TV and film productions that use them.¹¹

Shaking Up the Cast

The MPAA has long been a prominent player in the Washington influence game, especially under the leadership of its legendary former president, the late Jack Valenti, who stepped down in 2004.¹² The MPAA then turned to Dan Glickman, a former member of

⁷ Eriq Gardner, MPAA Taps Steven Fabrizio as Global General Counsel, *Hollywood Reporter*, November 14, 2013; Eriq Gardner, Top MPAA Lawyer on Google's Failures, Suing Kim Dotcom and Obama After SOPA (Q&A), *Hollywood Reporter*, January 4, 2014.

⁸ <http://judiciary.house.gov/files/hearings/113th/11192013/111913%20Testimony%20McCoskey.pdf>; <http://judiciary.house.gov/index.cfm/hearings?ID=96A301DE-8477-48C5-ABCF-833E1FED8DA0>.

⁹ Ted Johnson, New Trade Pact Prompts Concerns Over Hollywood's Influence, *Variety*, January 8, 2014.

¹⁰ Letter from Motion Picture Association of America to Assistant U.S. Trade Representative Stan McCoy, October 25, 2013.

¹¹ <http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientbills.php?id=D000027729&year=2013>; Kevin Bogardus, Legislation to Corral Big Cats Draws The Wrath of the Circus Industry, *The Hill*, May 29, 2013; Motion Picture Association of America, Lobbying Disclosure Reports, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Mitch Rose Strategic Consulting, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Sentinel Worldwide, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; The Nickles Group, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Capitol Tax Partners, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Cove Strategies, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Capitol Consulting Group Illinois, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; McDermott Will & Emery, First Quarter 2013 Lobbying Termination Report on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

¹² Richard Verrier and Jim Puzanghera, MPAA Hires Former Sen. Dodd as Head, *Los Angeles Times*, March 2, 2011; <http://www.mpa.org/about/history>.

Congress and secretary of agriculture under President Bill Clinton, with mixed results.¹³ After Mr. Glickman stepped down in 2010, the MPAA searched for a new leader for more than a year before hiring the newly retired Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-CT) as chairman and CEO in 2011.¹⁴ Sen. Dodd, a former chair of the Senate Banking Committee, was seen as having strong relationships with members of Congress and experience forging consensus on difficult subjects.¹⁵ The MPAA paid Sen. Dodd more than \$3.3 million in 2012—nearly two and a half times what they paid Mr. Glickman in 2009, his last full year in the job.¹⁶

In 2013, the MPAA spent \$2.16 million on lobbying, the highest amount since 2008.¹⁷ The last six months, however, have brought a slew of shifts on the lobbying front. In August 2013, the MPAA hired Neil Fried, until then a chief counsel for communications and technology for the House Energy and Commerce Committee under Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI).¹⁸ The committee has jurisdiction over telecommunications and media issues.¹⁹ Mr. Fried, the senior vice president for government and regulatory affairs, oversees the MPAA's lobbying. In January 2014, the MPAA announced two more new lobbyist hires, bringing its in-house lobbying team to seven.²⁰ Patrick Kilcur, the MPAA's new vice president of government and regulatory affairs,²¹ had been a floor assistant for Sen. Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY).²² Ben Staub worked for the House Judiciary Committee under Rep. John Conyers (D-MI),²³ currently the committee's ranking member.²⁴ The House Judiciary Committee has jurisdiction over copyright law.²⁵

At the end of 2013, the MPAA terminated four of its seven outside lobbying firms: The Nickles Group, Mitch Rose Strategic Consulting, Sentinel Worldwide, and Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld.²⁶ Those four firms reported collectively receiving \$470,000 in lobbying fees

¹³ Verrier and Puzanghera, *Los Angeles Times*, Mar. 2, 2011.

¹⁴ *Id.*; <http://www.mpaa.org/about/history>.

¹⁵ Verrier and Puzanghera, *Los Angeles Times*, Mar. 2, 2011.

¹⁶ Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2009, filing date unknown; Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2012, filed November 15, 2013.

¹⁷ Motion Picture Association of America, Lobbying Disclosure Reports, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

¹⁸ Press Release, Motion Picture Association of America, Aug. 1, 2013.

¹⁹ <http://clerk.house.gov/legislative/house-rules.pdf>.

²⁰ Press Release, Motion Picture Association of America, Patrick Kilcur, Ben Staub Join MPAA, January 27, 2014; Motion Picture Association of America, Fourth Quarter 2013 Lobbying Disclosure Report, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records. The MPAA's lobbying report for fourth quarter 2013 lists six lobbyists, including Mr. Staub. Mr. Kilcur has not yet been listed as a lobbyist on an MPAA lobbying report, but CREW has included him in its tally of the MPAA's in-house lobbying team because the MPAA said his duties will primarily include advocacy before Congress. See Press Release, Motion Picture Association of America, Jan. 27, 2014.

²¹ Press Release, Motion Picture Association of America, Jan. 27, 2014; Capitol Hill Vets Patrick Kilcur, Ben Staub Join MPAA, Deadline, January 27, 2014.

²² http://www.legistorm.com/person/bio/25424/Patrick_R_Kilcur.html; Press Release, Motion Picture Association of America, Jan. 27, 2014.

²³ http://www.legistorm.com/person/bio/36197/Benjamin_Irving_Staub.html.

²⁴ <http://judiciary.house.gov/index.cfm/committee-members>.

²⁵ <http://clerk.house.gov/legislative/house-rules.pdf>.

²⁶ Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, Fourth Quarter 2013 Lobbying Termination Report on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Mitch Rose Strategic Consulting, Fourth Quarter 2013 Lobbying Termination Report on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America,

from the MPAA last year.²⁷ Akin Gump alone earned \$240,000 of that amount, and had been lobbying for the MPAA for nearly 15 years.²⁸

The MPAA is still actively represented by two outside lobbying firms.²⁹ Capitol Tax Partners lobbies on “tax issues related to the film industry” and reported taking in \$280,000 in lobbying fees from the MPAA in 2013.³⁰ Capitol Tax has lobbied for the MPAA since 2001.³¹ Cove Strategies, which lobbies on “issues relating to copyright law,” began lobbying for the MPAA in February 2013 and reported \$160,000 in lobbying fees from the MPAA last year.³² Cove Strategies’ founder, Matthew Schlapp, who now lobbies for the MPAA, was deputy assistant to the president during the George W. Bush administration and is a former lobbyist for Koch Industries.³³

Backstage Action

The MPAA has not been depending solely on lobbying to push its agenda. In 2009, the MPAA’s tax filings showed it made \$109,000 in grants to other nonprofits.³⁴ In 2012, the group reported making \$2.4 million in such grants—a 2,134 percent increase.³⁵ According to CREW’s analysis, 17 percent of the MPAA’s 2012 grants went to groups that appear nonpolitical such as

Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Sentinel Worldwide, Fourth Quarter 2013 Lobbying Termination Report on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; The Nickles Group, Fourth Quarter 2013 Lobbying Termination Report on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

²⁷ Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Mitch Rose Strategic Consulting, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Sentinel Worldwide, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; The Nickles Group, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

²⁸ Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Mid-Year 1999-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

²⁹ Capitol Tax Partners, Fourth Quarter 2013 Lobbying Disclosure Report on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Cove Strategies, Fourth Quarter 2013 Lobbying Disclosure Report on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records. A third firm, Capitol Consulting Group Illinois, reports having the MPAA as a client but has not reported any lobbying activity or fees from the representation since 2009. For more information, *see* Capitol Consulting Group Illinois, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Year End 2006-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

³⁰ Capitol Tax Partners, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

³¹ Capitol Tax Partners, Registration on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

³² Cove Strategies, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America, First Quarter 2013-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

³³ <http://covestrategies.com/team.html>; Koch Industries, Inc., Year-End 2005 Lobbying Disclosure Report, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

³⁴ Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2009, filing date unknown.

³⁵ Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2012, filed November 15, 2013.

the American Film Institute and the Empire State Relief Fund, while 83 percent were awarded to organizations registered to lobby, Washington think tanks, political organizations, and groups that advocate on issues important to the MPAA's policy agenda, such as copyright.³⁶

During the 2010 election cycle, the MPAA gave \$15,000 to the Democratic Governors Association (DGA) and nothing to the Republican Governors Association (RGA).³⁷ During the 2012 election cycle, it gave \$260,000 to the DGA and \$260,000 to the RGA.³⁸ Grants from the MPAA to party-affiliated campaign groups rose from \$75,000 to \$770,000 from the 2010 election cycle to the 2012 election cycle—an increase of more than 900 percent and a far larger amount than the \$93,050 in contributions the MPAA's political action committee (PAC) gave to federal candidates during the 2012 election cycle.³⁹

The MPAA's grants include hundreds of thousands of dollars to so-called "dark money" groups, which spend millions of dollars to influence elections but do not disclose their donors.⁴⁰ During the 2012 election cycle, the MPAA gave \$200,000 to Americans for Tax Reform, \$100,000 to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, \$25,000 to the American Action Network, and \$20,000 to Let Freedom Ring, a Pennsylvania organization that describes its mission as seeking to "counter the attacks of anti-conservative groups."⁴¹ These organizations together spent more than \$60 million during the 2012 election cycle, nearly all of it against Democratic candidates.⁴²

Groups receiving grants have sided with the MPAA during major policy fights. Americans for Tax Reform (ATR), the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Let Freedom Ring all came out in favor of the anti-piracy legislation backed by the MPAA in 2012, before the MPAA's grants to the organizations were publicly reported.⁴³ Since 2011, when the MPAA

³⁶ Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2012, filed November 15, 2013.

³⁷ Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2009, filing date unknown; Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2010, filed November 14, 2011.

³⁸ Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2011, filed November 12, 2012; Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2012, filed November 15, 2013.

³⁹ Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2009, filing date unknown; Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2010, filed November 14, 2011; Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2011, filed November 12, 2012; Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2012, filed November 15, 2013; <http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2012>.

⁴⁰ <http://www.opensecrets.org/outsidespending/summ.php?cycle=2012&chrt=V&disp=O&type=A>.

⁴¹ Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2011, filed November 12, 2012; Motion Picture Association of America, IRS Form 990, Initial Return 2012, filed November 15, 2013; <http://www.letfreedomringusa.com/about>.

⁴² <http://www.opensecrets.org/outsidespending/summ.php?cycle=2012&chrt=V&disp=O&type=A>.

⁴³ Janie Lorber and Kate Ackley, Groups Ramp Up Lobbying Before SOPA Vote, *Roll Call*, December 15, 2011; Americans for Tax Reform, Lobbying Disclosure Reports, First Quarter 2011-Fourth Quarter 2013, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Lobbying Disclosure Reports, First Quarter 2012-Fourth Quarter 2012, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Altrius Group, Lobbying Disclosure Reports on behalf of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce-Global Intellectual Property Center, First Quarter 2012-Fourth Quarter 2012, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records; Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, First Quarter 2012 Lobbying Disclosure Report on behalf of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce-Global Intellectual Property Center, Secretary of the Senate, Office of Public Records.

began making grants to ATR, the MPAA and ATR have both reported lobbying on 14 overlapping issues, including SOPA and three different trade pacts.⁴⁴

The MPAA has also given grants to organizations that do not employ registered lobbyists but support MPAA policy priorities in other ways. For example, from 2010 to 2012, the MPAA gave \$900,000 to the Copyright Alliance, a nonpartisan group that describes itself as “representing artists, creators, and innovators across the spectrum of copyright disciplines.”⁴⁵ The Copyright Alliance, which routinely testifies before Congress on copyright, attacks media piracy⁴⁶ and urges tougher copyright protections, both priorities of the MPAA.⁴⁷ The MPAA is a founding board member of the organization.⁴⁸

Influence Movie Classics

The MPAA’s PAC contributed more than \$90,000 to federal candidates during the 2012 election cycle,⁴⁹ and employees of the MPAA contributed an additional \$89,840 during the same period.⁵⁰ The total amount of federal campaign contributions linked to the MPAA has been relatively stagnant. The PAC contributed a high of \$139,428 to federal candidates in 2008,⁵¹ but in five of the last eight election cycles the organization gave between \$80,000 and \$95,000 to federal candidates and averaged spending \$94,852 a cycle over that period, even as the amount spent on elections has exploded exponentially.⁵² Donations from MPAA employees reached a high of \$102,686 during the 2008 presidential election cycle, then fell to \$46,700 during the 2010 midterm election cycle before ticking back up to \$89,840 during the 2012 presidential election cycle.⁵³

The MPAA PAC’s donations have slanted towards the party in power during any given cycle, but overall, have been almost evenly split between the two parties. When Republicans

⁴⁴ <http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientbills.php?id=D000027729&year=2011>;
<http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientbills.php?id=D000027729&year=2012>;
<http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientbills.php?id=D000027729&year=2013>;
<http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientbills.php?id=D000047095&year=2011>;
<http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientbills.php?id=D000047095&year=2012>;
<http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientbills.php?id=D000047095&year=2013>.

⁴⁵ <http://copyrightalliance.org/about>.

⁴⁶ Jonathan Bailey, *When Piracy Becomes About Victim Blaming*, *Plagiarism Today/Copyright Alliance*, October 16, 2013.

⁴⁷ <http://mpaa.org/contentprotection/copyright-info>; <http://www.copyrightalliance.org/testimony-filings-briefs>.

⁴⁸ <http://www.copyrightalliance.org/members>; <http://mpaa.org/contentprotection/copyright-info>.

⁴⁹ <http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cycle=2012&cmte=C00139519>.

⁵⁰ CQ Moneyline, *Donor Employer Lookup*, Motion Picture Association of America, 2011-2012.

⁵¹ <http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2008>.

⁵² <http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=1998>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2000>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2002>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2004>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2006>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2008>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2010>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2012>.

⁵³ CQ Moneyline, *Donor Employer Lookup*, Motion Picture Association of America, 1999-2012.

controlled Congress leading up to the 2006 elections, Republican candidates received 62 percent of the PAC's contributions.⁵⁴ Two years later, Democrats were in control and received 62 percent of contributions.⁵⁵ During the 2012 election cycle, with control of Congress divided, Republican candidates received slightly more than Democrats—\$6,700.⁵⁶ Overall, since 1997, 51 percent of the PAC's contributions have been to Democrats and 49 percent to Republicans, a near-perfect balance over time.⁵⁷ The MPAA's employees, including Sen. Dodd, have been much more likely to favor Democrats, backing them by a more than three-to-one margin since 2007 and by a four-to-one margin during the 2012 election cycle.⁵⁸

The top recipient of campaign contributions from the MPAA's PAC and employees since 2009 is former Rep. Howard Berman (D-CA), who received \$18,000.⁵⁹ While in Congress, Rep. Berman was a member of the Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, Competition, and the Internet of the House Judiciary Committee and was one of 23 co-sponsors of SOPA.⁶⁰ He lost his re-election bid in November 2012.⁶¹ The second-largest individual recipient was Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT), who received \$15,500. Sen. Leahy is the chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee,⁶² which has jurisdiction over copyright and consumer law.⁶³ He was the lead sponsor of PIPA.⁶⁴ Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), who received \$13,400,⁶⁵ was the third-largest recipient. Sen. Feinstein is a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee⁶⁶ and was one of 31 co-sponsors of PIPA.⁶⁷ House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-VA) was the fourth largest recipient, with \$9,500. Sen. Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) were

⁵⁴ <http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2006>.

⁵⁵ <http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2008>.

⁵⁶ <http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2012>.

⁵⁷ <http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=1998>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2000>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2002>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2004>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2006>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2008>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2010>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2012>.

⁵⁸ CQ Moneyline, [Donor Employer Lookup, Motion Picture Association of America, 2007-2012](#).

⁵⁹ <http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2010>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2012>.

⁶⁰ <https://web.archive.org/web/20121108173729/http://judiciary.house.gov/about/subcommittee.html>; Cosponsors, *Stop Online Piracy Act*, S. 968, available at <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

⁶¹ Michelle Quinn, [Brad Sherman Defeats Howard Berman After Bitter Fight](#), *Politico*, November 7, 2012.

⁶² <http://www.leahy.senate.gov/biography/>.

⁶³ <http://www.judiciary.senate.gov/about/members.cfm>; <http://www.judiciary.senate.gov/about/jurisdiction.cfm>.

⁶⁴ Cosponsors, *Preventing Real Online Threats to Economic Creativity and Theft of Intellectual Property Act of 2011*, S. 968, available at <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

⁶⁵ <http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2010>;

<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2012>.

⁶⁶ <http://www.judiciary.senate.gov/about/members.cfm>.

⁶⁷ Ten additional senators co-sponsored PIPA at various points, but withdrew their sponsorship and are not included in this tally. See Cosponsors, *Preventing Real Online Threats to Economic Creativity and Theft of Intellectual Property Act of 2011*, S. 968, available at <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

tied as the fifth-largest recipients and received \$8,500 each.⁶⁸ Sen. Hatch is the ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee,⁶⁹ which has jurisdiction over international trade issues,⁷⁰ and is also a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee.⁷¹ He also co-sponsored PIPA, though he withdrew his sponsorship after the tech industry sparked a public outcry against the bill.⁷²

Domestic box office receipts topped \$10.9 billion in 2013,⁷³ which means Hollywood has enough cash to keep paying its Washington lobbying bills for a while.

⁶⁸ <http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2010>;
<http://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cmte=C00139519&cycle=2012>.

⁶⁹ <http://www.finance.senate.gov/about/membership/>.

⁷⁰ <http://www.finance.senate.gov/about/jurisdiction/>.

⁷¹ <http://www.judiciary.senate.gov/about/members.cfm>.

⁷² Cosponsors, *Preventing Real Online Threats to Economic Creativity and Theft of Intellectual Property Act of 2011*, S. 968, available at <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

⁷³ Jessica Herndon, 2013's Domestic Box Office Rakes in Almost \$11 Billion, *Associated Press*, December 27, 2013.