CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

103RD CONGRESS

SENATE

Bill	Date	Page(s)
H.R. 2632	Nov. 20, 1993	S16866-67

Action:

Patents and Trademarks: Senate concurred in the amendments of the House to H.R. 2632, to authorize appropriations for the Patent and Trademark Office in the Department of Commerce for fiscal year 1994, clearing the measure for the President.

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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1993

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives on (H.R. 2632).

A bill to authorize appropriations for the Patent and Trademark Office in the Department of Commerce for fiscal year 1994.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Amendments: In lieu of the text proposed to be inserted by the Senate amendment, insert the following:

SEC. 5. INTERIM PATENT EXTENSIONS.

Section 156 of title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(4) by striking out "extended" and inserting "extended under subsection (e)(1)";

(2) in the second sentence of subsection (d)(1) by striking "Such" and inserting "Except as provided in paragraph (5), such"; and

(3) by adding at the end of subsection (d) the following new paragraph:

"(5)(A) If the owner of record of the patent or its agent reasonably expects that the applicable regulatory review period described in paragraph (1)(B)(ii), (2)(B)(ii), (3)(B)(ii), (4)(B)(ii), or (5)(B)(ii) of subsection (g) that began for a product that is the subject of such patent may extend beyond the expiration of the patent term in effect, the owner or its agent may submit an application to the Commissioner for an interim extension during the period beginning 6 months, and ending 15 days, before such term is due to expire. The application shall contain—

"(i) the identity of the product subject to regulatory review and the Federal statute under which such review is occurring;

"(ii) the identity of the patent for which interim extension is being sought and the identity of each claim of such patent which claims the product under regulatory review or a method of using or manufacturing the product;

"(iii) information to enable the Commissioner to determine under subsection (a)(1), (2), and (3) the eligibility of a patent for extension;

"(iv) a brief description of the activities undertaken by the applicant during the applicable regulatory review period to date with respect to the product under review and the significant dates applicable to such activities; and

"(v) such patent or other information as the Commissioner may require.

"(B) If the Commissioner determines that, except for permission to market or use the product commercially, the patent would be eligible for an extension of the patent term under this section, the Commissioner shall publish in the Federal Register a notice of such determination, including the identity of the product under regulatory review, and shall issue to the applicant a certificate of interim extension for a period of not more than 1 year.

"(C) The owner of record of a patent, or its agent, for which an interim extension has been granted under subparagraph (B), may apply for not more than 4 subsequent interim extensions under this paragraph, except that, in the case of a patent subject to subsection (g)(6)(C), the owner of record of the patent, or its agent, may apply for only 1 subsequent interim extension under this paragraph. Each such subsequent application shall be made during the period beginning 60 days before, and ending 30 days before, the expiration of the preceding interim extension.

"(D) Each certificate of interim extension under this paragraph shall be recorded in the official file of the patent and shall be considered part of the original patent.

"(E) Any interim extension granted under this paragraph shall terminate at the end of the 60-day period beginning on the date on which the product involved receives permission for commercial marketing or use, except that, if within that 60-day period the applicant notifies the Commissioner of such permission and submits any additional information under paragraph (1) of this subsection not previously contained in the application for interim extension, the patent shall be further extended, in accordance with the provisions of this section—

"(i) for not to exceed 5 years from the date of expiration of the original patent term; or

"(ii) if the patent is subject to subsection (g)(6)(C), from the date on which the product involved receives approval for commercial marketing or use.

"(F) The rights derived from any patent the term of which is extended under this paragraph shall, during the period of interim extension—

"(i) in the case of a patent which claims a product, be limited to any use then under regulatory review;

"(ii) in the case of a patent which claims a method of using a product, be limited to any use claimed by the patent then under regulatory review; and

"(iii) in the case of a patent which claims a method of manufacturing a product, be limited to the method of manufacturing as used to make the product then under regulatory review.".

SEC. 6. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

Section 156 of title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking "(d)" and inserting "(d)(1)"; and

(B) in paragraph (3) by striking "subsection (d)" and inserting "paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (d)";

(2) in subsection (b) by striking "The rights" and inserting "Except as provided in subsection (d)(5)(F), the rights"; and

(3) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking "subsection (d)" and inserting "paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (d)"; and

(B) in paragraph (2) by striking "(d)" and inserting "(d)(1)".

SEC. 7. PATENT TERM EXTENSIONS FOR AMERICAN LEGION.

(a) BADGE OF AMERICAN LEGION.—The term of a certain design patent numbered 54,296 (for the badge of the American Legion) is renewed and extended for a period of 14 years beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, with all the rights and privileges pertaining to such patent.

(b) BADGE OF AMERICAN LEGION WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.—The term of a certain design patent numbered 56,298 (for the badge of the American Legion Women's Auxiliary) is renewed and extended for a period of 14 years beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, with all the rights and privileges pertaining to such patent.

(c) BADGE OF SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION.—The term of a certain design patent numbered 92,187 (for the badge of the Sons of the American Legion) is renewed and extended for a period of 14 years beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, with all the rights and privileges pertaining to such patent.

SEC. 8. INTERVENING RIGHTS.

The renewals and extensions of the patents under section 6 shall not result in infringement of any such patent on account of any use of the subject matter of the patent, or substantial preparation for such use, which began after the patent expired, but before the date of the enactment of this Act.

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I move that the Senate concur in the House amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion of the Senator from Kentucky.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.