Calendar No. 869

87TH CONGRESS, 1st Session | SENATE | REPORT No. 886

AMERICAN PATENT SYSTEM WEEK

SEPTEMBER 7, 1961.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MCCLELLAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.J. Res. 499]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the resolution (H.J. Res. 499) authorizing the President of the United States to designate the week of October 15, 1961, as "The American Patent System Week," having considered the same, reports favorably thereon, without amendment, and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the proposed resolution is to authorize the President of the United States to designate the week of October 15, 1961, as "The American Patent System Week."

STATEMENT

The designation of a week as the American Patent System Week is sponsored by the Department of Commerce and was introduced at the request of that Department.

July 4, of 1961 marked the 125th anniversary of the Patent Act of 1836 which created the present examination system for granting patents and which established the U.S. Patent Office as a separate and distinct bureau, with a Commissioner of Patents as its head. It is expected that the 3,000,000th patent under this act will be granted in September 1961.

The patent grant has been a traditional incentive for the promotion of the useful arts thereby benefiting the welfare of the people of the United States and the world. This function of the patent grant has assumed added significance in view of the present-day necessity of maintaining a technological lead and increasing the rate of economic growth of this Nation.

The Department of Commerce deems it reasonable, therefore, that this anniversary of this important Patent Act and the establishment of the U.S. Patent Office should be observed in a fitting manner. Accordingly, that Department is proceeding with plans for an industrial exhibit of an educational value to the public, a series of seminars by industrialists, engineers, inventors, members of the patent profession and guests from foreign patent offices on the theme of the patent system and the modern economy, tours of the Patent Office and discussions of Patent Office operational problems with foreign officials.

The joint resolution provides for the Secretary of Commerce and the Commissioner of Patents, and such other persons or groups as they may designate, to make suitable arrangements for an appropriate observance of this event which is so advantageous to this Nation and to other countries of the world.

The committee has been advised that no appropriation of Federal funds is necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

The committee is of the opinion that it is most appropriate for the Congress to authorize the President to designate a week as American Patent System Week and accordingly recommends favorable consideration of House Joint Resolution 499, without amendment.

Attached hereto and made a part hereof is the communication from the Department of Commerce in support of this resolution.

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE,
Washington, D.C., July 19, 1961.

Hon. LYNDON B. JOHNSON,
President of the Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: There are enclosed four copies of a draft resolution for the purpose of authorizing the Secretary of Commerce and the Commissioner of Patents and such other persons or groups as they may designate to make suitable arrangements for an appropriate observance of the American Patent System on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the Patent Act of 1836, which occurred on July 4, 1961.

This act created the present examination system for granting patents and established the U.S. Patent Office as a separate and distinct bureau with a Commissioner of Patents as its head. It is expected that the three-millionth patent under the principles of this act will be granted in September 1961.

The patent grant has been a traditional incentive for the promotion of the useful arts thereby benefiting the welfare of the people of the United States and of the world. This function of the patent grant has assumed added significance in view of the present-day necessity of maintaining the technological lead and increasing the rate of economic growth of the Nation. It appears proper, therefore, that the 125th anniversary of this act should be observed in a fitting manner.

The Department urges early congressional action to enable proper preparations to be made by October 18, 19, and 20, 1961, when it is contemplated the ceremonies of this celebration will be held.

We are advised by the Bureau of the Budget that no objection from the standpoint of the administration's program would be taken to the transmission of this draft joint resolution.

Sincerely yours,

EDWARD GUDEMAN,
Under Secretary of Commerce.

STATEMENT OF NEED FOR AND PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION

July 4, 1961, marked the 125th anniversary of the Patent Act of 1836, which created the present examination system for granting patents and which established the U.S. Patent Office as a separate and distinct bureau with a Commissioner of Patents as its head. It is expected that the three millionth patent under this act will be granted in September 1961.

The patent grant has been a traditional incentive for the promotion of the useful arts thereby benefiting the welfare of the people of the United States and the world. This function of the patent grant has assumed added significance in view of the present day necessity of maintaining the technological lead and increasing the rate of economic growth of this Nation.

It appears reasonable therefore, that this anniversary of this important Patent Act and the establishment of the U.S. Patent Office should be observed in a fitting manner. Accordingly, the Department of Commerce is proceeding with plans for an industrial exhibit of an educational value to the public, a series of seminars by industrialists, engineers, inventors, members of the patent profession and guests from foreign patent offices on the theme of the Patent System and the Modern Economy, tours of the Patent Office and discussions of patent office operational problems with foreign officials. The observance will include a banquet for approximately 1,400 persons. The Department of Commerce does not believe that an appropriation from the Congress is necessary and none is requested.

The resolution provides for the Secretary of Commerce and the Commissioner of Patents and such other persons or groups as they may designate to make suitable arrangements for an appropriate observance of this event which is so advantageous to this Nation and to other countries of the world.

A prime desire of the Department of Commerce is to place the American patent system and the U.S. Patent Office before the public with appropriate publicity. The encouragement of invention is essential to our welfare. It is felt that congressional recognition of the anniversary will help to make the people more keenly aware of the great part which the American Patent System has played and is still playing in the continued development of our Nation.

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