March 13, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Room 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Room 152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Support for the Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Act

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

The American Intellectual Property Law Association (“AIPLA”) is pleased to support the Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Act, which seeks to implement the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled. AIPLA welcomes this important proposed reform and urges its prompt consideration.

AIPLA is a national bar association of approximately 13,500 members who are primarily lawyers engaged in private or corporate practice, government service, and the academic community. AIPLA members represent a wide and diverse spectrum of individuals, companies, and institutions involved directly or indirectly in the practice of patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret, and unfair competition, as well as other fields of law affecting intellectual property. Our members represent both owners and users of intellectual property. Our mission includes helping to establish and maintain fair and effective laws and policies that stimulate and reward invention and authorship while balancing the public’s interest in healthy competition, reasonable costs, and basic fairness.

We believe that the legislation serves the laudable goal of increasing access to copyrighted works by blind, visually impaired and disabled persons and is narrowly tailored to avoid creating a significant risk to the owners’ ability to exploit the market for those works.

AIPLA appreciates the attention to this issue and we look forward to working with the Committee on this legislation as the process moves forward.

Sincerely,

Myra H. McCormack
President
American Intellectual Property Law Association