Public Law 99-616
99th Congress

An Act

To amend the patent laws implementing the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

Nov. 6, 1986
[S. 1230]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Act to authorize the United States to participate in chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty". 35 USC 351 note. 28 UST 7645.

SEC. 2. (a) Section 351(a) of title 35, United States Code, is amended by striking out ", excluding chapter II thereof".

(b) Section 351(b) of title 35, United States Code, is amended by striking out "excluding part C thereof".

(c) Section 351(g) of title 35, United States Code, is amended by—

(1) striking out "term" and inserting in lieu thereof "terms";

(2) inserting "and 'International Preliminary Examining Authority' " after "Authority"; and

(3) striking out "means" and inserting in lieu thereof "mean".

(d) Section 361(d) of title 35, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(d) The international fee, and the transmittal and search fees prescribed under section 376(a) of this part, shall either be paid on filing of an international application or within such later time as may be fixed by the Commissioner.".

SEC. 3. The item relating to section 362 in the analysis for chapter 36 of title 35, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"362. International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority.".

SEC. 4. Section 362 of title 35, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 362. International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority

"(a) The Patent and Trademark Office may act as an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority with respect to international applications in accordance with the terms and conditions of an agreement which may be concluded with the International Bureau, and may discharge all duties required of such Authorities, including the collection of handling fees and their transmittal to the International Bureau.

"(b) The handling fee, preliminary examination fee, and any additional fees due for international preliminary examination shall be paid within such time as may be fixed by the Commissioner.".

SEC. 5. Section 364(a) of title 35, United States Code, is amended by—

(a) striking out "or", first occurrence and inserting in lieu thereof ",";

(b) inserting "International Preliminary Examining Authority" after "Authority, or"; and

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(c) striking out "both".

SEC. 6. Section 368(c) of title 35, United States Code, is amended by—

(a) striking out the second occurrence of "or" and inserting in lieu thereof ",", and

(b) striking out "both" and inserting in lieu thereof "International Preliminary Examining Authority".

SEC. 7. (a) Section 371(a) of title 35, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(a) Receipt from the International Bureau of copies of international applications with any amendments to the claims, international search reports, and international preliminary examination reports including any annexes thereto may be required in the case of international applications designating or electing the United States."

(b) Section 371(b) of title 35, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(b) Subject to subsection (f) of this section, the national stage shall commence with the expiration of the applicable time limit under article 22 (1) or (2), or under article 39(1)(a) of the treaty".

(c) Section 371(c)(4) of title 35, United States Code, is amended by striking the "." and inserting in lieu thereof ";".

(d) Section 371(c) of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph (5):

"(5) a translation into the English language of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language.".

(e) Section 371(d) of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following sentence: "The requirement of subsection (c)(5) shall be complied with at such time as may be fixed by the Commissioner and failure to do so shall be regarded as cancellation of the amendments made under article 34(2)(b) of the treaty"

(f) Section 371(e) of title 35, United States Code, is amended by inserting "or article 41" after "28"

SEC. 8. (a) Section 376(a) of title 35, United States Code, is amended by—

(1) inserting "and the handling fee" after the first occurrence of "fee";

(2) striking "amount is" and inserting in lieu thereof "amounts are",

(3) redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (6); and

(4) inserting the following new paragraph (5):

"(5) A preliminary examination fee and any additional fees (see section 362(b))."

(b) Section 376(b) of title 35, United States Code, is amended by—

(1) inserting "and the handling fee" after the first occurrence of "fee" in the first sentence; and

(2) inserting "the preliminary examination fee and any additional fees," after "fee," in the third sentence.

SEC. 9. Sections 2 through 8 of this Act shall come into force on the same day as the effective date of entry into force of chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty with respect to the United States, by virtue of the withdrawal of the declaration under article 64(1)(a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. It shall apply to all international applications pending before or after its effective date.

Effective date.
35 USC 351 note.
28 UST 7645.

Approved November 6, 1986.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 1230:

SENATE REPORTS: No. 99-275 (Comm. on the Judiciary).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 132 (1986):
Oct. 16, considered and passed Senate.
Oct. 17, considered and passed House.

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