



Special Public Bill Committee on the Intellectual Property (Unjustified Threats) Bill [HL]

Call for Evidence

The House of Lords has established a Special Public Bill Committee on the Intellectual Property (Unjustified Threats) Bill. The long title of the Bill is “*to amend the law relating to unjustified threats to bring proceedings for infringement of patents, registered trade marks, rights in registered designs, design right or Community designs.*”

Special Public Bill Committees are empowered to take written and oral evidence on a Bill before considering it. **The Committee would therefore welcome your views on the provisions contained within the Bill, and any other matters that would be considered to be relevant to the subject matter as defined by the long title.**

The Committee have received copies of the October 2015 report of the Law Commission on these matters ([Law Com No 360](#)) and so references may be made in your evidence to that report. The Committee will be considering legislation in this field in general terms and, as such, will not be investigating individual cases.

Written evidence should be submitted online using the written submission form available at: <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/ip-unjustified-threats-bill/>.

If you do not have access to a computer you may submit a paper copy to:
Clerk to the Special Public Bill Committee on the Intellectual Property (Unjustified Threats) Bill,
Legislation Office,
House of Lords,
London SW1A 0PW.

The deadline for written evidence is **3 October 2016**.

Short, concise submissions, of **no more than six pages**, are requested. A longer submission should include a one-page summary. Paragraphs should be numbered. Submissions should be dated, with a note of the author’s name, and of whether the author is acting on an individual or corporate basis. All submissions made through the written submission form will be acknowledged automatically by email.

Personal contact details supplied to the Committee will be removed from submissions before publication but will be retained by Legislation Office staff for specific purposes relating to the Committee’s work, such as seeking additional information.

Submissions become the property of the Committee which will decide whether to accept them as evidence. Evidence may be published by the Committee at any stage. It will normally appear on the Committee’s website and will be deposited in the Parliamentary

Archives. Once you have received acknowledgement that your submission has been accepted as evidence, you may publicise or publish it yourself, but in doing so you must indicate that it was prepared for the Committee. If you publish your evidence separately, you should be aware that you will be legally responsible for its content.

You should be careful not to comment on individual cases currently before a court of law, or matters in respect of which court proceedings are imminent. If you anticipate such issues arising, you should discuss with the Clerk of the Committee how this might affect your submission.

Certain individuals and organisations may be invited to appear in person before the Committee to give oral evidence. Oral evidence is usually given in public at Westminster and broadcast in audio and online. Persons invited to give oral evidence will be notified separately of the procedure to be followed and the topics likely to be discussed.

Substantive communications to the Committee should be addressed through the Clerk, whether or not they are intended to constitute formal evidence to the Committee.

This is a public call for evidence. Please bring it to the attention of other groups and individuals who may not have received a copy direct.

You can follow the progress of the inquiry at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/ip-unjustified-threats-bill/>.

15 September 2016