

Public Law 102-64  
102d Congress

An Act

June 28, 1991  
[S. 909]

To amend chapter 9 of title 17, United States Code, regarding protection extended to semiconductor chip products of foreign entities.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "Semiconductor International Protection Extension Act of 1991".

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress finds that—

(1) section 914 of title 17, United States Code, which authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to issue orders extending interim protection under chapter 9 of title 17, United States Code, to mask works fixed in semiconductor chip products and originating in foreign countries that are making good faith efforts and reasonable progress toward providing protection, by treaty or legislation, to mask works of United States nationals, has resulted in substantial and positive legislative developments in foreign countries regarding protection of mask works;

(2) the Secretary of Commerce has determined that most of the industrialized countries of the world are eligible for orders affording interim protection under section 914 of title 17, United States Code;

(3) no multilateral treaty recognizing the protection of mask works has come into force, nor has the United States become bound by any multilateral agreement regarding such protection; and

(4) bilateral and multilateral relationships regarding the protection of mask works should be directed toward the international protection of mask works in an effective, consistent, and harmonious manner, and the existing bilateral authority of the Secretary of Commerce under chapter 9 of title 17, United States Code, should be extended to facilitate the continued development of protection for mask works.

(b) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to extend the period within which the Secretary of Commerce may grant interim protection orders under section 914 of title 17, United States Code, to continue the incentive for the bilateral and multilateral protection of mask works; and

(2) to clarify the Secretary's authority to issue such interim protection orders.

**SEC. 3. AUTHORITY TO ISSUE PROTECTION ORDERS.**

Section 914 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)(B) by inserting "or implementing" after "enacting"; and

Semiconductor  
International  
Protection  
Extension Act  
of 1991.  
Copyrights.  
17 USC 901 note.  
17 USC 914 note.

(2) in subsection (e) by striking "July 1, 1991" and inserting "July 1, 1995".

**SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

Section 914(f)(2) of title 17, United States Code, is amended in the last sentence by striking "July 1, 1990" and inserting "July 1, 1994".

Approved June 28, 1991.

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**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S. 909 (H.R. 1998):**

**HOUSE REPORTS:** No. 102-122 accompanying H.R. 1998 (Comm. on the Judiciary).

**SENATE REPORTS:** No. 102-78 (Comm. on the Judiciary).

**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD,** Vol. 137 (1991):

June 12, considered and passed Senate.

June 25, H.R. 1998 considered and passed House; S. 909 passed in lieu.