

# IEEE-USA Legislative Update

January 26, 2012



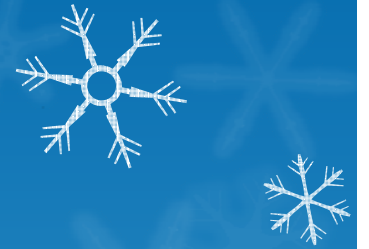
# Situation Overview

- Election year has begun
- No big initiatives
- Some opportunities to do small things
  
- Central Conflict: Both Parties want to deprive the other of victories, but you can't have victories unless both Parties can claim credit.



# State of the Union

- Strong push for R&D
- Support for alternative energy
  - Less alternative energy than previous years
  - No nuclear
- STEM Visa support



# Budget

- President's budget expected in two weeks
- Debt ceiling must be raised
- Republicans want to reduce spending and not shut the government down. It is not clear they can do both

Best budget analysis can be found at [www.aaas.org/spp/rd](http://www.aaas.org/spp/rd)

# SOPA / PIPA

- Anti-counterfeit bill
- Defeated by massive grassroots campaign
- Will be re-written and re-introduced in the spring
- IEEE-USA is focusing on providing technical advice on how to stop the sale of pirated goods



# Immigration Reform



- Chaffetz Bill is stuck in the Senate
  - There is little interest in moving it, but also little opposition to it
- Griffin / Smith bill introduced “soon”
  - STEM for Diversity swap
  - Masters and PhDs
  - Waiting for Chairman Smith to sign off on details
  - Basic principles supported by all key players

# Transportation Policy

- FAA Reauthorization possible
  - Compromise reached on union rules
  - NextGen Air Traffic Control in the bill



# IEEE-USA Meeting Schedule



- CVD: April 24 & 25
- Annual Meeting: May 3 & 5
- STEM Workshop: June 5 & 6
- Energy Fly-In: June 18 & 19

All IEEE members in US are welcome and encouraged to attend.

# Other Things

- Whitehouse summit on Insourcing, Jan. 7
- NSF Science and Engineering Indicators:  
<http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/seind12/>
- Hearing on Volt fires, House Oversight Committee, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>
- Hearing on “America’s Nuclear Future” House Energy Committee, Feb 2
  
- Next Update: Feb. 23rd

Questions?

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Thank you

