

# Alamo Inventors<sup>SM</sup>



## The Innovation Act, HR 3309 – Seeking To Do Now What Could Not Be Done Before William N. Hulsey III

On December 5, 2013, the House passed the Innovation Act by a vote of 325 to 91. Sponsored by Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.). The legislation aims to rein in the growing problem of patent trolls, companies who make no useful products themselves but profit by threatening other companies with lawsuits. This legislation seeks to do much that was desired, but could not be accomplished, in the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act of 2011

With a measurably different political environment today, The Innovation Act's provisions make procedural changes to the patent system to discourage the tactics preferred by trolls. These include (1) requiring specificity in patent lawsuits, (2) making patent ownership more transparent, (3) making losing plaintiffs pay, (4) delaying discovery to keep costs down, and (5) protecting end users by allowing technology vendors to step into the shoes of their customers and fight lawsuits against trolls on their customers' behalf.

Mr. Hulsey will discuss these provisions and how they could fix the patent troll problem, as well as who favors and who opposes the legislation and why. Also, Mr. Hulsey will expound on how the bill could adversely impact on independent inventors if the losing plaintiff is forced to pay for all court costs. With a special focus on Central Texas' inventors and entrepreneurs, this presentation includes guidelines for responding to the bill now and later, if enacted as law.

Mr. Hulsey is an intellectual property attorney and partner at HulseyCahloun P.C., [www.hulseyiplaw.com](http://www.hulseyiplaw.com), Austin, Texas.

Also, please take this opportunity to pay your annual dues (\$25/\$95 Corporate), thanks!

### Wednesday, January 8, 2014

5:30-6:30 Networking 6:30-8:00 PM - Presentation

San Antonio Technology Center

3463 Magic Drive

(North of I-410 Between Callaghan and Fredericksburg Roads)

Public Invited

Special Thanks For: Refreshments Provided by Marx Design



Alamo Inventors, a Special Interest Group (SIG) of Technology Connexus Association, is a non-profit organization made up of local area engineers, business people, professionals, students, faculty and people from all walks of life. Anyone interested in inventing and/or business and product development is welcome to attend and become a member.

For more information visit:

[www.alamoinventors.org](http://www.alamoinventors.org)

