## Property Rights Action Caucus

U.S. Congressman Paul C. Broun, M.D., Chairman

The United States on Friday

US cites China, Russia for failing to protect intellectual property (AFP-4/25/08)

In an annual report on intellectual property rights protec-

The Special 301 Report, named after the section of US law on which it is based, spotlights "one of the central challenges

China and Russia are among the nine countries on this

Those countries will be the subject of "particularly in-

named China and Russia as among the worst protectors of intellec-

tual property rights, flooding global trade with counterfeit items

tion, the US Trade Representative's office singled out China and

Russia for allegedly failing to respect US patents and copyrights.

year's priority watch list that includes Argentina, Chile, India, Is-

such as DVDs, designer bags, medicines and software.

facing the global economy," USTR Susan Schwab said.

tense" bilateral dialogue during the coming year, the



Battle over eminent domain is another civil rights issue David T. Beito and Ilya Somin (Kansas City Star - 4/27/08)

Few policies have done more to destroy community and opportunity for minorities than eminent domain. Some 3 to 4 million Americans, most of them ethnic minorities, have been forcibly displaced from their homes as a result of urban renewal takings since World War II.

Eminent domain has always had an outsized impact on the constitutional rights of minorities, but most of the public didn't notice until the U.S. Supreme Court's 2005 ruling in Kelo v. City of New London. In Kelo, the Court endorsed the power of a local government to forcibly transfer private property to commercial interests for the purpose of "economic development."

The Fifth Amendment requires that such seizures be for a "public use," but that requirement can be satisfied, the Court ruled, by virtually any claim of some sort of public benefit. Many charge that Kelo gives governments a blank check to redistribute land from the poor and middle class to the wealthy.

> www.kansascity.com/273/v-print/ story/594562.html

> > The

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Lodi assures critics

its eminent domain

By Daniel Thigpen

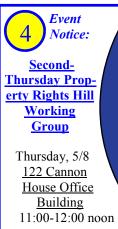
(recordnet.com -

5/1/08)

ban is here to stay

afp.google.com/article/ ALeqM5hK7FRJ2cUuy2 z2uz7YRer0Y3nEHQ

USTR said.



event.

\*\*\*If you have an agenda item for the working group, please contact Kelsev Zahourek at 202-290-7646 or kzahourek@propertyrightsalliance.org

Please note, you should have already received an invitation from the

Second Thursday Property Rights Hill Working Group regarding this

JOIN THE **PROPERTY RIGHTS ACTION CAUCUS!!!** 

I invite you all to join the new Property Rights Action Caucus for weekly information & for defending these rights. Our liberties are only as secure as our property rights.

We will examine: eminent domain, federal government property ownership, downloading of multimedia, the Endangered Species Act, patent reform, pharmaceutical issues, compulsory licensing, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) & all issues of land and intellectual property.

Please contact Stephen Kraly at 202-225-4101 or stephen.kraly@mail.house.gov for membership and info.

citv's elected leaders and public officials have made the promise, both in writing and in public forums: Lodi will not take your home or business if it approves a redevelopment project.

By stripping the city of its eminent domain

powers, Lodi officials have aimed to garner more public support for redevelopment, the controversial proc-

ess by which cities keep a larger share of property tax revenue for rehabilitation projects.

Several years ago, residents shot down a similar proposal, partly over fears the government would seize their property. There has been little public opposition to redevelopment this time around.

recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080501/A\_NEWS/805010340/-1/A\_NEWS

For more information on the Property Rights Action Caucus, please visit http://broun.house.gov/prac. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Caucus please contact Stephen Kraly at 202.225.4101 or Stephen.Kraly@mail.house.gov.

rael, Pakistan, Thailand and Venezuela.

May 2, 2008