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## **Empirical Study on the Twelve-Year Practice of Taiwan Integrated Circuits Layout Protection Law**

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### Abstract

Semiconductor industry is essential to Taiwan's economic development. The Integrated Circuits Layout Protection Law in 1995 was special legislative protection for the semiconductor industry. Some contend that the law is necessary to secure Taiwan's interests, and some contend that the law is only a result under the pressure of Section 301 of US trade law. However, it has been twelve years after passage of the Integrated Circuits Layout Protection Law. This article attempts to review the practice of the law by empirical study. Especially, this article surveys the litigations in the courts and registrations in the Intellectual Property Office and tries to analyze the reasons. Besides, this article also explains the trend and provides some comments on the law.

**Keywords:** integrated circuit, circuit layout, chip, Integrated Circuits Layout Protection Law, Chip Protection Act, empirical study, empirical analysis