

THE COALITION FOR 21ST CENTURY PATENT REFORM
Protecting Innovation to Enhance American Competitiveness

April 1, 2009

Chairman Patrick Leahy
Senator Arlen Specter
Senator Dianne Feinstein
U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Patent Reform Act of 2009

Dear Senators:

The compromise package you outlined this week to the Committee has our Coalition's strong support. As the Patent Reform bill proceeds through the legislative process, we look forward to continuing to work with you and other Members of Congress to make further changes needed for enactment.

As we indicated yesterday, we are appreciative of the hard work and perseverance that led to this major breakthrough. The package you are offering, together with the other elements of the bill, should improve the U.S. patent system.

Our Coalition of 50 companies from more than 16 different industry sectors was formed to ensure that any changes to our patent system would be balanced and fair; allowing us to continue fostering innovation and employment in the United States. During the 111th Congress, you and your fellow Senate Judiciary Committee members, and your staffs, have worked hard to try to achieve this goal.

Thank you again for your efforts to adopt legislation that will improve the quality and reliability of the patent system.

Sincerely,



Gary Griswold
Chairman, Coalition for 21st Century Patent Reform