

April 1, 2009

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Room 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-6275

The Honorable Arlen Specter
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United State Senate
Room 711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-3802

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Room 331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-0504

Dear Chairman Leahy, Ranking Member Specter and Senator Feinstein:

On behalf of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA), I am writing to express our strong support for your proposed compromise amendment to S. 515. On balance, we view it as a significant step toward significant and productive patent reform. We are grateful for your continuous efforts to improve this legislation.

AIPLA is a national bar association of approximately 16,000 members engaged in private and corporate practice, in government service, and in academia. AIPLA represents a wide and diverse spectrum of individuals, companies and institutions involved directly or indirectly in the practice of patent and trademark law, as well as other fields of law affecting intellectual property. Our members represent both owners and users of intellectual property, and they have a keen interest in a strong and efficient patent system.

We thank you and your staffs for the long hours of dedicated work in crafting this important legislation, and we appreciate your detailed attention to the complex issues found at every turn in the patent reform debate. AIPLA is committed to a strong, efficient, and predictable patent system, and is eager to work with you and your staffs to achieve that goal and we look forward to continuing to work on other issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Terry Rea
President