

PENNSYLVANIA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY FORUM
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March 30, 2009

Senator Arlen Specter
711 Hart Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Senate Bill 515, "Patent Reform Act of 2009"

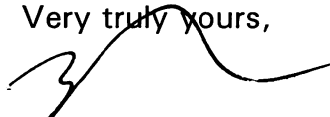
Dear Senator Specter:

I am writing on behalf of the Pennsylvania Intellectual Property Forum concerning S. 515. The Pennsylvania IP Forum is an organization of patent practitioners and intellectual property attorneys located principally in Southeastern Pennsylvania. While some of us represent large entities, all of us represent individual inventors and small entities. Large entities already have significant advocates in Washington. Our purpose in making these comments is to provide a voice to individual inventors and small businesses that otherwise may not be heard.

We are concerned about several aspects of S.515, including the limitation on patent damages. We are concerned that the proposed changes will erode the U.S. patent system, impair the ability of Pennsylvania small businesses and individual inventors to protect and commercialize their inventions, and damage the competitive position of the U.S. in the world. We urge that you and the Senate approach changes to the patent system carefully, deliberately, and with a full understanding of the consequences of your actions. We urge that you and the Senate not rush to make wholesale changes at the behest of the few to the detriment of the many.

The members of the Pennsylvania IP Forum would be pleased to assist you and your staff concerning these issues.

Very truly yours,



Robert J. Yarbrough
PTO Reg. No. 42,241
Chairman,
Pennsylvania Intellectual Property Forum