

June 24, 2019

Senator Thom Tillis
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington D.C., 20510

Senator Chris Coons
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington D.C., 20510

Representative Hank Johnson
2240 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C., 20515

Representative Doug Collins
1504 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C., 20515

Representative Steve Stivers
2234 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C., 20515

Dear Chairman Tillis, Ranking Member Coons, Chairman Johnson, Ranking Member Collins, and Representative Stivers:

We applaud your leadership in examining the current law on patent eligibility and strongly support legislation to reform Section 101 of the Patent Act. Such legislation is essential to future American innovation and security.

We believe that legislation to restore patent eligibility to its traditional role as a coarse filter that broadly encourages invention in all corners of science, engineering, medicine, and other disciplines is necessary. Unfortunately, recent judicially created loopholes now deny some of our best inventions, the patent protection they deserve and are in fact receiving in China, Europe, and elsewhere. These loopholes currently discourage inventors from pursuing research and development in areas that are critical not only to our future health and prosperity, but also to our security, as other nations invest to beat the United States in the race for the innovations of the future.

We enthusiastically endorse the goals of your proposed legislation to reform Section 101 to restore high quality, reliable patent protection to the United States. Your draft reforms to Section 101 would stimulate the private sector to invest in innovation, economic development, and job growth.

We also write to make clear in no uncertain terms that under your proposed legislation, naturally occurring materials and compositions as they exist in nature – including human genes – will remain patent ineligible, despite well-publicized claims to the contrary.

We look forward to continuing to work with each of you to reform Section 101 of the Patent Act to strengthen our patent system for the future prosperity and security of our nation.

Sincerely,

Aerin Medical
Austin, TX

Alliance of U.S. Startups & Inventors for Jobs (USIJ)
Washington, DC

American Business Defense Council
Washington, DC

American Conservative Union
Alexandria, VA

Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO)
Washington, DC

Bristol-Myers Squibb
New York, NY

California Life Sciences Association - CLSA
San Diego, CA and South San Francisco, CA

Candesant Biomedical
San Francisco, CA

Cardionomic, Inc.
New Brighton, MN

Cleveland Medical Devices Inc.
Cleveland, OH

Conservatives for Property Rights
Washington, DC

Core Mobility Solutions
San Jose, CA

Cummins Allison Corp.
Mount Prospect, IL

CVRx
Minneapolis, MN

Dolby Laboratories, Inc.
San Francisco, CA

DOTS Technology Corp.
Natick, MA

Earlens Corporation
Menlo Park, CA

Eventys Partners
Charlotte, NC

Exact Sciences Corp.
Madison, WI

ExploraMed
Mountain View, CA

Fallbrook Technologies
Cedar Park, TX

Flocel Inc.
Cleveland, OH

Foundry Therapeutics 1, Inc.
Menlo Park, CA

Foundry Therapeutics 2, Inc.
Menlo Park, CA

The Foundry, LLC
Menlo Park, CA

Genentech, Inc.
South San Francisco, CA

Great Lakes NeuroTechnologies Inc.
Independence, OH

Half Moon Medical
Menlo Park, CA

Innovation Alliance
Washington, DC

Intact Vascular, Inc.
Wayne, PA

InterDigital
Wilmington, DE

Intrinsic Therapeutics
Woburn, MA

Johnson & Johnson
New Brunswick, NJ

JumpStart, Inc.
Cleveland, OH

LamaMed Solutions
Hayward, CA

Lauder Partners LLC
Atherton, CA

Licensing Executives Society (U.S.A. and Canada), Inc.
Alexandria, VA

Luma Therapeutics
Millbrae, CA

Lungpacer Medical USA Inc.
Exton, PA

The Market Institute
Burke, VA

Medical Device Manufacturers Association (MDMA)
Washington, DC

Hon. Paul Michel, Retired Federal Circuit Chief Judge
Alexandria, VA

Minerva Surgical
Redwood City, CA

Moximed
Fremont, CA

NC8, Inc.
Mountain View, CA

NeuroPace
Mountain View, CA

NeuroWave Systems Inc.
Cleveland Heights, OH

Novo Nordisk Inc.
Plainsboro, NJ

Orbital Research Inc.
Cleveland, OH

Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA)
Washington, DC

Phyllis Schlafly Eagles
St. Louis, MO

Procter & Gamble
Cincinnati, OH

Relievent Medsystems, Inc.
Minneapolis, MN

Retrophin, Inc.
San Diego, CA

RPT Legal Strategies PC
San Francisco, CA

Sandstone Diagnostics
Pleasanton, CA

Sanibel Capital
Zephyr Cove, NV

Senseonics, Inc.
Germantown, MD

Setpoint Medical
Valencia, CA

Small Business Technology Center
Washington, DC

Solace Therapeutics, Inc.
Framingham, MA

Solar Junction Corporation
Tempe, AZ

SpyGlass Ophthalmics
Mission Viejo, CA

TiVo Corporation
San Jose, CA

U.S. Business & Industry Council
Washington, DC

USG Corporation
Chicago, IL

Velano Vascular, Inc.
San Francisco, CA

Vytronus
Sunnyvale, CA

Western Digital
San Jose, CA

Wi-LAN Inc.
Vista, CA

Willow
Mountain View, CA

Xperi Corporation
San Jose, CA