

coalition for  
patent fairness



The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

March 23, 2009

Dear Mr. President:

We write to urge your strong support for H.R. 1260 and S. 515, the “Patent Reform Act of 2009.” These bills are nearly identical and were introduced simultaneously on March 3, by Chairman Leahy, Chairman Conyers, Senator Hatch and Congressman Smith. Each has made it clear that they want the Congress to act on these bills in April.

We share your sense of urgency on revitalizing the U.S. economy and believe that patent reform is an important part of that effort. According to a study by the Information Technology Industry Foundation, information technology has driven nearly all of the economic growth in the United States over the last decade, adding \$2 trillion annually to the economy. Modernizing the U.S. patent system and stopping the abuses we see now will greatly enhance our efforts to innovate by creating U.S.-based jobs to help better lead our nation’s economic recovery.

We believe sustained growth requires relighting the fires of American ingenuity and innovation. The Patent Reform Act of 2009 would fuel American innovation and competitiveness by modernizing U.S. patent law, improving patent quality, and reducing unnecessary litigation. These bills are fully in line with your technology policy objectives as set out on [WhiteHouse.gov](http://WhiteHouse.gov).

The Congress has been working on patent reform for nearly 8 years. Our country cannot afford to wait. The status quo is not good enough.

We believe these are good, fair and balanced bills and urge your strong support.

Sincerely,

Tom Adams  
President and CEO, Rosetta Stone, Inc.

Steven R. Appleton  
Chairman and CEO, Micron Technology, Inc.

Jim Balsillie  
Co-CEO, Research In Motion

Carl Bass  
President and CEO, Autodesk, Inc.

Rick Burnes  
General Partner, Charles River Ventures

Safra Catz  
President, Oracle

John Chambers  
Chairman and CEO, Cisco

John Chen  
Chairman, President and CEO, Sybase, Inc.

Ed Colligan  
President and CEO, Palm, Inc.

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President and CEO, Adobe Systems Incorporated

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John A. Swainson  
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John Thompson  
Chairman of the Board and CEO, Symantec Corporation

Chris Zannetos  
CEO, Courion Corporation