

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to you as a member of the technology transfer community concerned about the direction of proposed patent reform legislation. Many of us in the university and business community have expressed our concerns about several aspects of the legislation. Our organization, STC.UNM, is a wholly owned subsidiary of the University of New Mexico and is responsible for the technology transfer of UNM. We have been actively engaged, in partnership with New Mexico industry associations, with educating our congressional delegation about our concerns with patent reform. Our web site (www.stc.unm.edu) has information about these concerns, including an open letter to our government officials which can be signed electronically. I invite you to look at our site and to sign, if you choose.

I am submitting the attached statement to AUTM for inclusion in its web-site discussion of the issue. Briefly stated, I feel that the associations are to be commended for their efforts on behalf of university interests in general, but as you will see in my statement, expectations and hopes held at the time of the Senate Committee voted have not materialized. And now that IBM's legal counsel has been nominated to lead USPTO, cumulative changed circumstances may warrant a fresh look at this issue by each of us in light of expectations and hopes for our own programs and the state-specific economic development it supports.

I know that many of your organizations have contacted your senators about recent developments. I just want to add my support and encouragement for all of us to continue to make our views known to our respective elected officials. Thank you.

Lisa Kuuttila