



Texas Instruments Incorporated

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The Honorable Lamar Smith
Chairman
House Judiciary Committee
2409 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Smith:

On behalf of Texas Instruments, I am writing to thank you for your strong leadership on H.R. 1249, "The America Invents Act" and to indicate our strong support for this legislation in its current form. TI has an 80 year history of innovation and every year we invest heavily in R&D. In 2010 invested 11% of our revenues in R&D. We have 12,800 active United States patents. A current and an efficient and effective U.S. patent system is essential to our ability to protect these investments.

TI appreciates the hard work that you and the House Judiciary Committee undertook to improve this bill from the version passed by the House in 2007. We believe that H.R. 1249, which is similar in many ways to S.23, which passed with overwhelming support, is a bipartisan and bicameral consensus-oriented approach to patent reform legislation.

The America Invents Act will help sustain America's global leadership in innovation, strengthen and improve our nation's patent system for all users and protect the intellectual property essential to support the creation of high wage and value jobs. The current language achieves a reasonable compromise that has been carefully crafted to recognize the different interests within the U.S. patent community. The United States has a clear need to enhance the predictability, efficiency, and transparency of its patent system and H.R. 1249 does just that.

The United States' patent system has helped grow our nation's ability to innovate while protecting the intellectual property rights of inventors since its creation more than two hundred years ago. It can continue to do so if it is modernized to make sure it meets the challenges facing today's innovators, investors and manufacturers.

We thank your leadership. We urge Congress to act on this bill quickly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fred Telecky".

Fred Telecky
Sr. Vice President &
General Patent Counsel