DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND

July 19, 1977

HR 6249

Mr. Robert A. Swanson
President, GENENTECH
475 Sansome Street
Fifteenth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94111

Dear Bob:

I very much enjoyed my conversation with you and Herb Boyer the other evening. As you requested, I am attaching a copy of Congressman Thornton's comprehensive Government patent policy bill, H. R. 6249. You would be particularly interested in the contractor section of the bill.

In addition, I am attaching a presentation that I made some months ago at a symposium at the University of California. The major thesis of the presentation was my belief that the need for the historical university-industry interface has become less obvious in modern society, and this need must be revitalized. The presentation further covers the important part patents play in the hands of universities in assuring that the interface is viable.

I am also attaching the reports generated by the President's Biomedical Research Panel and the Commission on Human Subjects in response to Congress' request to study the impact of the Freedom of Information Act on disclosure of research information to the Government. As you will see, the recommendations of both reports indicate that the fourth exemption of the Freedom of Information Act provides for unjustified access to privately owned information in the hands of the Government, and that statutory relief is necessary to protect against inequitable releases. These reports clearly support the inclusion of lines 23 through 25 of Section 480 of the Rogers DNA bill, H.R. 7897. In addition, you might be interested in the attached 1975 paper I delivered on the same subject.

Last, I'm attaching a paper delivered on the impact of regulation on the innovative process made earlier this year which, although somewhat emotional, appears to be a topic that a number of people are now interested in.

Sincerely yours,

OFFICE	SURNAME	DATE	OFFICE	SURNAME	DATE	OFFICE	SURNAME	DATE
			Norman J. Latker					
			Patent Counsel					

Enclosures

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