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November 9, 1979

Dr. Frank Press, Director
Office of Science & Technology Policy
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Dr. Press:

Our Society and its members were pleased to see the Domestic Policy Review initiated by President Carter in 1978 result in his recent announcement of industrial innovation initiatives. We were particularly pleased to see that in the Fact Sheet which was released through the White House the President specifically supported the retention of patent ownership by universities and small businesses in recognition of their special place in our society.

We have considered that the statement in the Fact Sheet relative to this recognition and support, emphasized as it was by its specific recitation and isolation from the President's decision to seek a uniform government patent policy with exclusive licenses in the field of use, is indicative that the Administration fully supports the University and Small Business Patent Procedures Act, S. 414 and its companion Bill in the House, H. R. 2414. The university community firmly believes that these Bills are a strong and meaningful first step in a govem ment policy which will strongly motivate innovation.

Our one concern with the Fact Sheet pronouncement was that S. 414 and H. R. 2414 were not specifically singled out as the Bills which respond to the President's innovation initiative favoring universities and small businesses. We urge that as the President's advisor on science and technology policy issues you will take steps to clearly and positively endorse S. 414 and H. R. 2414 on behalf of the Administration.

I will be pleased to have your prompt confirmation that the Administration does clearly and positively endorse and support S. 414 and

H. R. 2414 as meaningful innovation initiatives which should be promptly enacted into law so that such information can be immediately disseminated to the Society's membership.

Very truly yours,

Howard W. Bremer

Howard W. Bremer
President

HWB:rw