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August 25, 1978

PATENT BRANCH, OGC
DHEW

AUG 28 1978

Mr. Earl W. Lewis
506 Can-Dota
Mt. Prospect, Illinois 60056

Dear Earl,

In keeping with our recent discussion, I enclose some information on the Government's handling of patents. This is more than you asked for - for which I apologize - but I wanted you to have the direct references.

Included is a letter to Mr. Crane wherein I have tried to summarize some of the problems and my request that he take a stand in support of Senator Dole's position. I do not apologize for this because I believe it is in keeping with his general philosophy on such matters. This is a classic case of Government over-regulation, to the detriment of all.

I realize that Government patent policy is not a subject of universal interest, but if Mr. Crane can see fit to take a stand, I believe he may find an appreciative audience in the University community.

Yours very truly,

Ray E. Snyder

Ray E. Snyder

RES/nls

Enc.

bcc Mr. Howard Bremer
Mr. Norman Latker
Mr. Paul Keenan
Mr. Martin Rachmeler

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LAWBYRINTH

August 25, 1978

The Honorable Philip Crane
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Crane:

I am a patent lawyer and one of your constituents. I am also a trustee of an organization entitled Society of University Patent Administrators. A significant portion of my practice involves inventions developed in the course of university research. Much of this research is sponsored by one or more agencies of the federal government. Each agency has a different patent policy - which is a mystery in itself - but as a general rule, the government does or can claim title to inventions developed under such sponsorship.

In the past, the universities have given in to the government by relinquishing such rights because they really had no business interest to protect. This has led to the absurd situation described by Senator Dole in the attached news release. The problem is not unique to the DHEW.

Dealing with inventions is intricate at best. Policies that hamstring the universities in trying to bring such inventions to the public benefit no one.

I realize that patents are not of vital interest to the average voter. Senators Nelson and Long realize this too which is why the government's policies and handling of such rights make a convenient target. In fact, the long term effect of such policies can hurt the individual, as Senator Stevenson has also observed.

It is my belief that the policies described are repugnant to your general philosophy of government. On behalf of SUPA, I request that you give your support to Senator Dole.

Yours very truly,

Ray E. Snyder

Ray E. Snyder

RES/nls
Enc.
bcc Mr. Howard Bremer
Mr. Norman Latker
Mr. Paul Keenan
Mr. Martin Rachmeler