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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

June 4, 1979

Mr. Daniel DeSimone
Acting Director
Office of Technology Assessment
600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. DeSimone:

There has been a great deal of concern in the Congress, which we share, that the United States is rapidly losing its competitive edge in innovation and productivity, along with the related problem that many promising inventions that are made each year under Government-supported research and development never achieve their potential in the marketplace because of ineffective Government policies.

We believe in this regard that the Office of Technology Assessment can make an important contribution toward solving this problem. We also understand that your office has received a resume from Mr. Norman Latker, whom we feel has invaluable expertise in the field of Government research combined with an excellent understanding of the innovation process.

Mr. Latker has worked with us on S. 414, the University and Small Business Patent Procedures Act, which is a first step in addressing the overall problem of getting inventions out into the marketplace where they can benefit the public. We strongly recommend that you give Mr. Latker a very serious consideration for employment at the OTA because we believe that he will prove to be a great asset for your office in an area of tremendous importance not only to the Congress, but to the continued prosperity of our country.

Sincerely,

Birch Bayh

Bob Dole

Charles McC. Mathias