

B2-JUD. - PATENTS
jaj

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator
FROM: Joe
RE: Nelson Small Business Innovation bill
DATE: September 10, 1979
COPIES: Kevin, Mary, Linda, Tom, Even, Bob B., Jim B., Ann M., Leg and David Dryer

Senator Nelson will soon be introducing a Small Business Innovation Act which contains the recommendations of the small business community who are concerned about the inability of small companies to fully participate in government research and development programs.

Two of the recommendations are that your bills, S. 414, the University and Small Business Patent Procedures Act, and S. 1679, the Patent Law Amendments Act be included in the omnibus legislation. Senator Culver's regulatory flexibility bill and a Nelson redraft of Senator Kennedy's bill specifying that each agency must award a certain percentage of its research and development contracts to small businesses will also be in the package.

ok
Nelson would ~~very much~~ like to have you as one of the original cosponsors of the bill. You, Senator Packwood and Senator Culver were initially invited as original cosponsors of this bill but because of the widespread interest, the limitation idea was shelved. (A grassroots lobbying effort including 1,500 small businesses is in place to support this bill.) Senator Nelson has agreed to publically acknowledge in his statement your authorship of two parts of the bill, agreed that the patent sections will be referred to Judiciary Committee, and most importantly has agreed to cosponsor both of your bills. This is a major coup for S. 414 because Nelson has bitterly opposed similar legislation in the past and as Chairman of the Small Business Committee has a lot of credibility in the area. His cosponsorship will remove one of the last ~~major~~ roadblocks to passage of S. 414 in the Senate and will be an indication ~~of~~ the support that your bill has generated.

JP
The Nelson bill has been widely circulated and has a great deal of interest and support. Many of the supporters of S. 414 were amazed to see it included in Senator Nelson's legislation.

If you agree to cosponsor (which I strongly recommend) it could be made into an important small business hit by stressing your long involvement in the area, and by underscoring your separate introduction of S. 414 and S. 1679 (which also looks like it should pass).

I have attached a summary of the Nelson bill for your information.

*made into copies
10/15*

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