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CHAIRMAN'S ACTION LETTER NO. 4

REEXAMINATION BAYH BILL NO. S. 1679

Legislative Reporter

J. JANCIN, JR. 7815 Fulbright Court West Bethesda Branch Washington, DC 20034 (703) 902-5442

Senator Birch Bayh introduced S. 1679 on August 3 to establish a patent reexamination procedure in the PTO. This bill was specifically and unanimously endorsed by the ABA-PTC Section at last months meeting in Dallas. As a matter of principle, reexamination has been supported in the past by the APLA and many other NCPLA member Associations. Attached is a copy of S. 1679 which, with two minor exceptions, is identical to the "Wiggins" bill, H.R. 14632, introduced in the 94th Congress.

This Action Letter is not to ask you to support S. 1679. Each member Association should analyze the bill, and there may be disagreement with some of the details of the bill. However, we can all agree that after debating reexamination among ourselves for the past five years, the time has come for Congressional action.

Senator Bayh has already contacted all of his colleagues in the Senate asking them to co-sponsor S. 1679. He has asked that each local bar association endeavor to assist him in convincing other Members of the Senate to agree to be co-sponsors of S. 1679. If he gets affirmative support, he will move ahead with hearings in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Therefore, I strongly urge each Association to contact its two United States Senators and urge them to agree to join Senator Bayh as co-sponsors of S. 1679. I am not offering a draft letter, but am attaching Senator Bayh's letter. Being a co-sponsor means support to have the bill actively considered. Ask your own Senators to take this step on your behalf.

To be most effective, this requires affirmative action before the end of September. In early October I will telephone each of you for a progress report. We can't expect Senator Rayh this bill - now!
We can't expect Senator Rayh gour senators, now!

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