

BOB DOLE
KANSAS

MAY 9 1980

STANDING COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
FINANCE
JUDICIARY

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

April 28, 1980

Mr. M. D. Woerpel
WARF
P. O. Box 2037
Madison, Wisconsin 53701

Dear Mr. Woerpel:

I am particularly pleased to inform you that S. 414, the University and Small Business Patent Procedures Act of 1980, passed the Senate on April 23rd by a vote of 91 to 4.

This legislation, which I introduced in cosponsorship with Senator Bayh, addresses itself to federally-funded research, and establishes a uniform policy on patents. It also guarantees small business, universities and non-profit organizations the patent rights to inventions that they are willing to develop and market at their own expense.

In view of the problems that have arisen over the past 30 years from the lack of a uniform patent policy and from the arbitrary decision making by individual federal agencies, I feel that the passage of S. 414 signifies a major step in the right direction towards easing the transfer of technology from the research stage to that of development, thus increasing American productivity from the decline it has entered.

The House Judiciary Committee is presently considering H.R. 2414, the companion bill to S. 414, and it is expected to report this bill to the full House of Representatives within the next few weeks.

Sincerely yours,


BOB DOLE
United States Senate

BD/rak