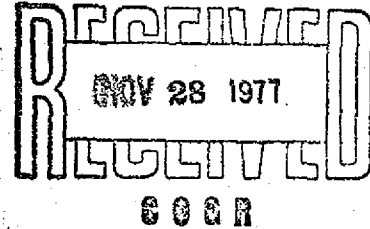


NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20550

nsf

OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL COUNSEL

November 22, 1977



Mr. Reagan Scurlock
Committee on Governmental Relations
National Association of College and
University Business Officers
One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 510
Washington, D.C. 20036


Dear Mr. Scurlock:

The Director has asked me to reply to your letter of November 1, 1977, concerning H.R. 8596. We are, in fact, giving unusually careful consideration to this bill and to the underlying issues of Government patent policy. We appreciate having your views, with which we are generally in sympathy, and we share your judgment that consideration of the proposed legislation both within the Administration and in Congress represents an important opportunity to displace heat with light on this most important, but poorly understood subject.

Since hearings on the bill are not now expected until May 1978, the National Science Foundation is taking the time to understand the subject as deeply and as thoroughly as possible before taking a firm position.

If your organization has suggestions on the details of the pending bill, we would be most interested in hearing from you or talking with you in greater detail.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Herz
General Counsel

Annex: Copy to McCartney
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is patent sub
An info