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Vice President for Research  
303/491-7194

Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado  
80523

August 9, 1978

The Honorable William L. Armstrong  
House of Representatives  
401 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Armstrong:

This letter is a request of your support on behalf of the universities in the Rocky Mountain Region in favor of the implementation of a uniform Federal Patent Policy for small business, nonprofit organizations, and universities receiving federal funding for research and development activities. A new bill is being formulated to take the place of HR8596 (Thorton Bill) and it is my understanding that this bill will be introduced in the Senate in the near future. It will be entitled the "University and Small Business Research Utilization Act of 1978". I have enclosed a draft of the proposed Act, a sectional analysis, and a supportive background paper for your information.

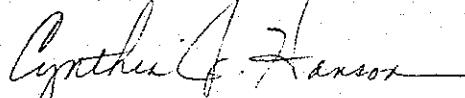
The following outlines the basis for Colorado State's supportive position of a uniform Federal Patent Policy.

The Colorado State University Research Foundation is the University administrative unit responsible for inventions and patents and the licensing of new technology developed by University personnel. We have, over the past several years, been engaged in a program to increase our patent and licensing activities. It is our belief that we can provide a successful technology transfer program for our faculty and promote the introduction of inventions into the marketplace. In order to provide this service and keep our patent program active it is necessary to obtain the most favorable patent rights we can on inventions resulting from federal sponsorship. In 1977 the Research Foundation successfully negotiated eight license agreements. We currently have twenty active licensees. In accordance with our Patent Policy, a percentage of royalty income received is returned to the inventors whose inventions have been licensed. Dollars remaining after accounting and legal expenses are returned to the University in support of educational and research programs through grants-in-aid, purchases of land and equipment, construction of needed facilities, etc..

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Our efforts to expand our patent and licensing activities in order to provide assistance to the University are supported by our belief that the contractor is by far the best equipped to successfully handle the transfer of new technology into the marketplace. Our faculty provide the technical expertise necessary in the evaluation of inventions as well as information on the state-of-the-art in a wide range of fields. Participation by the University in technology fairs and professional societies such as the Licensing Executives Society and the Society of University Patent Administrators provides a valuable information resource and a wealth of opportunities in the patent and licensing field. For these reasons we would like to encourage your support of a uniform Government patent policy which would give contractors the opportunity of retaining title to inventions resulting from federal sponsorship. Your consideration and support in this regard will be appreciated.

Sincerely,



Cynthia J. Hanson  
Assistant to the Vice President  
and University Patent Officer

CJH:mn  
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Norman Latker  
Mr. Howard Bremer ✓

Same letter sent to: Floyd Haskell  
James Johnson  
Frank Evans  
Timothy Wirth  
Patricia Schroeder  
Gary Hart