

Joel Skornicka
Mayor

September 27, 1979

Senator Gaylord Nelson
221 RSOB
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

This is written to encourage your strong support of Senator Birch Bayh's patent reform bill S414.

The positive impact this legislation will have upon the University of Wisconsin-Madison is obvious. We are fortunate to have the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) as the University's patent-management agent and thus be able to take wise advantage of this legislation. Of equal importance is the potential benefit this legislation will have for small innovative companies in the Madison area.

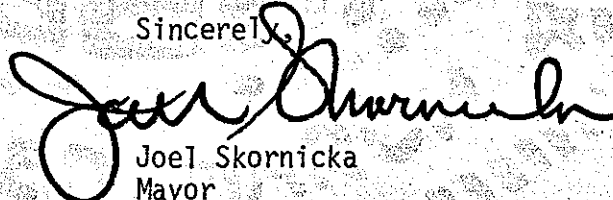
This bill is a first step toward encouraging more research and development activities on the part of small businesses -- a step helping to make the market place more competitive. The bill will also provide for an equitable and uniform federal patent policy.

We would urge you to back efforts to amend this bill to protect the background rights of small businesses doing government supported research and development work.

In addition we understand you are in the process of drafting a piece of legislation which would provide tax incentives to small businesses involved in research and development work and which would improve the position of small businesses competing for government supported research and development contracts. This legislation is also of great interest to Madison.

We would appreciate being kept posted on the status of S414 and related legislation.

Sincerely,



Joel Skornicka
Mayor

xc: Mr. Robert Brennan, President, Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce
Chancellor Irving Shain, University of Wisconsin - Madison
Dean Robert M. Bock, University of Wisconsin - Madison
Mr. John Rick, Managing Director, WARF

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