WISCONSIN ALUMNI RESEARCH FOUNDATION

June 10, 1981

Honorable Robert W. Kastenmeier Chairman, House Subcommittee on Courts, Civil Liberties and the Administration of Justice Room 2137, Rayburn House Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Kastenmeier:

We are very grateful for your leadership in the passage of PL 96-517, The Patent and Trademark Amendment of 1980. We believe Section 6 will significantly increase the number of inventions made available to and benefiting the public. It will also aid WARF and the University in handling many of the inventions being made on the campus.

The Patent Term Restoration Act of 1981 - S255, H.R. 1937 will also be of great importance to WARF, the University and to the public. A substantial fraction of the invention disclosures that WARF receives comes from the strong biological and life science research on the Madison campus. The most important patents WARF has held over the years have been in the medical pharmaceutical areas, and that is still true. vitamin D related products based on Professor DeLuca's work are already on the market providing important medical benefits and significant royalties to WARF. This experience makes us very aware of the effective shortening of patent life by the regulatory process. This has been a deterrent to making the benefits of research available to the public. It has also caused losses to the inventors, to this Foundation and thus to the University. Your sponsorship of HR 1937 is a most constructive step toward achieving the full public benefit of research and reducing these losses to the inventors and WARF.

We very much appreciate your strong active role in strengthening and improving the patent system. If WARF can provide any information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

John R. Pike, Ph.D. Managing Director

JRP/ecs