

SUPA file

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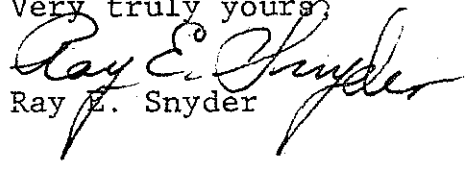
Mr. Paul R. Keenan
University of Missouri
418 Clark Hall
Columbia, MO 65211

Dear Paul:

Enclosed is a copy of the new bill S.1065 recently introduced by Senator Danforth. He is trying to offer some tax incentives to industry to sponsor basic research at the universities.

At our recent meeting of officers and trustees of SUPA on June 17, I was asked to send Senator Danforth a supporting statement on behalf of SUPA. The individual members of SUPA are in full accord with the spirit and intent of this bill. The only objectionable portion we find has to do with the handling of patent rights that might evolve from such research. This is with regard to Section 44D(c)(5). Placing the patents in the public domain is tantamount to a "kiss of death" so far as any benefit to the public. Proof of this lies in the fact that the Federal Government already owns some 30,000 patents and less than 4% of these are licensed to anyone. Most of the inventions evolving from scientific research require a substantial amount of further development before they are ready for the market. No company is going to invest in such development in the absence of a proprietary position.

I believe that this statement of opinion is consistent with our previous stand on such matters and that I believe we should convey to Senator Danforth the benefit of our experience with such matters.

Very truly yours,

Ray E. Snyder

RES/ao
enclosure

cc: Howard Bremer ✓
Mary Spores