



Michigan Technological University



houghton, michigan 49931

Division of Research
908/487-2225

September 5, 1978

Honorable Robert P. Griffin
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Griffin:

This week, two of your colleagues are requesting that you cosponsor with them a bill to ESTABLISH A UNIFORM FEDERAL PATENT POLICY FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS CONTRACTING WITH THE GOVERNMENT. Senator Robert Dole and Senator Birch Bayh recognize the importance of providing incentives to university and small business inventors to encourage technology transfer and new business investment.

I urge you to join with Senators Dole and Bayh in cosponsoring this piece of legislation which gives nonprofit organizations and small businesses the first option to rights in their own inventions (with safeguards and exceptions) made under federal sponsorship. Upon passage by the Congress, the law will obsolete the 22 different federal agency patent policies with which we university administrators now struggle. Most importantly, however, it will create new jobs by vastly increasing the probability of successful technology transfer and by stimulating small business firms.

The research universities of Michigan can enhance the quality of life in Michigan and in the nation, and they can improve the economic climate of the state and of the U.S.--all through technology transfer. The Dole-Bayh Bill will encourage us to get on with the job at an accelerated pace and with a minimum of red tape! It may also help us to reduce our dependence on taxpayer dollars by stimulating the licensing of new technology which originates in the universities.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Evans
Director of Research

TPE:mno

Enc.

cc: Honorable Robert Dole
Honorable Birch Bayh

P.S.--The enclosed yellow "Ideas for Industry" listings from Michigan Tech testify to the vigor of our aggressive patent and licensing program. All of these items were invented and patented without the use of federal funds--the list would be longer if the proposed legislation had already been enacted. Seven have been licensed as of this date.

bcc ✓ Howard W. Bremer, WARF
Hon. Philip E. Ruppe

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