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National Small Business Association

Founded 1937

"The Voice of Small Business"

May 7, 1985

Mr. Donald W. Banner
President
Intellectual Property Owners
1800 M Street, NW, Suite 1030 N
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Banner:

Reference: S. 65

It is understood that IPO has taken a position in opposition to Section 3 of S. 65. You will recall that this section deals with sharing any royalties received by government-owned laboratories with the inventors who are employees of such laboratories. Elsewhere IPO has stated that IPO representation includes the views of small business.

IPO is wrong on both counts. It is wrong when it opposes Section 3 of S. 65 and it is wrong when it says it also represents small business. The directors of IPO, as listed on IPO stationery, do not reflect small business' view point.

IPO opposition is deemed to be anti-competitive, anti-small business, anti-motivation and is a result of a lack of sensitivity to President Reagan's announced positions on encouraging the utilization and commercialization of inventions made by inventors in government laboratories.

Numerous private institutions have been working very well with universities in assisting in bringing to commercial fruition the inventions made by inventors in university laboratories. The university employed inventor and the university itself share in the largese resulting in any successful commercialization.

When one looks at the experience of the university equation and compares it with the abysmal failure of the government's lack of dynamism in commercialization of government inventor generated inventions one concludes there is little or no structure for effectuating commercialization for a number of reasons, such as:

1. Low level gathering of new invention disclosures.
2. Little or no encouragement for government laboratory employees to unearth and make known inventions resulting from government research.
3. Inability of parochially oriented government reviewers to see commercialization possibilities.