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From: 518 [mailto:518@verizon.net]

Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2006 2:07 PM

To: AB94Comments

Cc: Gerry Elman

Subject: AB94 Proposal

Attn: Mr. Robert A. Clark

Greetings:

As an inventor, I understand proposal AB94 to have an adverse effect on small business and individual inventors. Selecting only 10 representative claims for examination will not afford the applicant the opportunity to obtain patented claims of sufficient breadth.

Consider an invention utilizing a computer client-server network, wherein the applicant would typically use one claim directed at the client side, one claim directed at the server side, and one claim directed at the combination. Thus, three independent claims are typically required for each innovative method in the disclosure in order to obtain sufficient protection of the innovative solution. Proposal AB94 would therefore require the inventor to limit the specification to disclosing a maximum of 3 innovative methods, as each would require 3 independent claims, unless the applicant is willing to undertake the onerous burden of filing an examination support document to include more claims. Furthermore the applicant is precluded from filing co-pending applications due to Paragraph 74.b4, unless filed with an examination support document.

Speaking from direct experience, as an inventor with eight issued, and three pending applications, I can attest that AB94, if it had been enacted earlier, would have precluded me from obtaining my patents due to the financial and onerous burden implied by this proposal.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Northrup