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From: Linda Pollock [mailto:lindapollock@att.net]

Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2006 12:23 PM

To: AB94Comments

Subject: Changes in Claims

Dear Commissioner Doll,

I understand that the changes in the claims process will have a huge impact on my ability to continue in my work as an independent inventor. These changes directly affect my livelihood, to the point where I might not be able to continue my work.

I am an independent inventor, and due to my parent's health and the fact that I have young children, I must work from home to be available for my family. My funds are extremely limited, and all development, marketing and patent costs must come out of pocket at the expense of something else in my life.

I understand that the proposed rule changes on claims examination will drastically increase my costs for obtaining a patent, while at the same time restricting the protection I pay for. That doesn't seem right. I also understand that even though I paid for twenty claims to be examined, the examiners will only examine ten claims.

What can you do to keep it so the independent inventor can survive? I understand that the process seems slow. Wouldn't it be possible to hire more examiners instead of penalizing those who can't afford it. By your own numbers, the recent increases in examiner hiring has stabilized the time to examine applications. And, after all, don't we already pay for the USPTO as a tax payer?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Linda Pollock

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