

**THE COALITION FOR 21ST CENTURY PATENT REFORM**  
*Protecting Innovation to Enhance American Competitiveness*

[www.patentsmatter.com](http://www.patentsmatter.com)

June 24, 2011

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. "Chuck" Grassley  
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary  
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

We urge you to work with the leadership of the Senate to bring H.R. 1249 to the Senate floor as soon the Senate's schedule might permit and **pass the bill as is.**

Our Coalition believes that this legislation will fully modernize our patent laws. Indeed, it will give the world the first truly 21st century patent law – creating patentability standards that are transparent, objective, predictable and simple in their application. It will enhance the inventor-friendly and collaboration-friendly features of our existing patent law. At the same time, it will increase public participation in the patenting process, while maintaining strong protections for inventors in the provisions that do so.

The agreement reached in the House on USPTO funding will assure that the fees paid to the USPTO by inventors will not be diverted and will be made available to the Office for processing patent applications and other important functions of the Office. While we would have preferred the Senate's approach in S. 23 to prevent diversion of USPTO funds, we believe that acceptance of the House bill provides an effective and the most immediate path forward to address problems of the patent office. H.R. 1249, like S. 23, is an excellent bill. These bills are the product of many years of skillful and difficult legislative work in both the House and the Senate. We believe the time has now come for the Senate to take the final legislative act required for enactment of these historic reforms.

Sincerely,



Gary L. Griswold