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August 31, 2007

Dear Colleague:

We write to invite you and your staff to attend a briefing on H.R. 1908, the Patent Reform Act of 2007. H.R. 1908 was voted out of the Committee on the Judiciary on July 18, with an almost unanimous voice vote.

H.R. 1908 presents the most comprehensive revision of United States patent law since the Patent Act of 1952. It is the product of more than four years of effort that began in the 107th Congress and has culminated in this bipartisan bill. The reforms provided for in H.R. 1908 have their foundation in the findings and recommendations of two intensive studies of the patent system by the National Academy of Sciences and the Federal Trade Commission, or were based on the testimony of the many witnesses, representing the entire spectrum of interests that are affected by the U.S. patent system, who appeared at nearly 20 hearings on the subject. Since the bill was introduced, it has undergone much modification to help ensure that it is fair and balanced toward all interested parties.

H.R. 1908 seeks to update the patent statutes so that they can meet the challenges of the economy and innovation environment of the 21st century.

Background materials as well as a copy of the bill as it was voted out of committee and the Committee Report are available on the Judiciary Committee web site (http://judiciary.house.gov/Printshop.aspx?Section=646).

The briefing, will be held at 3:00 PM on Tuesday, September 4th in RHOB 2141. The briefing will provide you and your staff a summary of the provisions in the bill, along with an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the provisions in more detail. We hope you can join us.

If you have any questions or would like to RSVP, please contact George Elliott (5-1826; george.elliott@mail.house.gov) with the Majority Staff, or Allison Beach (5-3892; allison.beach@mail.house.gov) with the Minority Staff.

Sincerely,

Howard L. Berman

Lamar S. Smith

Howard Coble