

James C. Greenwood  
President & CEO

June 14, 2011

The Honorable Lamar Smith  
Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary  
2138 Rayburn House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Smith:

On behalf of the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO), I am writing to express our strong support for your Manager's Amendment to H.R. 1249, the America Invents Act. It is our strong desire to see this bill, as amended, passed by the House, and then we will work with you to ensure that any final product is perfected.

This legislation is similar to the bill adopted earlier this year by the U.S. Senate by a nearly unanimous vote, and we are pleased that the Manager's Amendment to the bill has resolved many of the remaining concerns for the life sciences industry. Your legislation will, once and for all, end the diversion of fees collected by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO), increase the objectivity of our patent system, and increase patent quality. It is precisely these types of reforms that should receive bipartisan support, as they are good for inventors and investors, hence good for business and jobs in America.

We thank you for all of your hard work to move the patent reform process forward in the House, and we look forward to working with you and the Senate to ensure that patent reform legislation is ultimately enacted into law this year.

Sincerely,



James C. Greenwood  
President and CEO  
Biotechnology Industry Organization



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