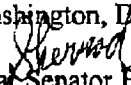


September 27, 2007

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510


Dear Senator Brown:

It was good talking to you the other day and I look forward to seeing you in the near future. As I mentioned to you there are several manufacturing companies and unions concerned about the patent reform legislation (S1145 and HR1908) pending in Congress.

This legislation radically changes the way damages are calculated to the detriment of patent holders. It would be better for US manufacturing if the current system to determine damages for infringing upon patents remains intact. Reasonable guidelines and decisions have been based on precedent and under the proposed legislation litigation would increase and patent certainty would decrease.

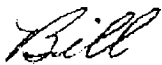
There are intellectual property, trade and competitiveness implications of this legislation, particularly as it relates to China.

Strong patents are vital to companies of all sizes committed to manufacturing in the United States. The proposed legislation is opposed by many industries. On May 15th, a diverse group of stakeholders – including academic institutions, high-tech, biotechnology, pharmaceutical companies and venture capital firms sent the House and Senate leadership a note that the proposed legislation “hold serious negative consequences for continued innovation and American technological leadership in the increasingly competitive 21st century economy.”

Finally, the AFL-CIO, USW, CWA and other labor unions have expressed concern with this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration to help defeat this onerous legislation if and when it comes to a vote in the US Senate.

Very truly yours,



William A. Burga

September 27, 2007

The Honorable George Voinovich
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Voinovich:

I have not spoken to you since I retired in May, but I am still involved in legislative work as it relates to working people and organized labor. In this regard there are several manufacturing companies and unions concerned about the patent reform legislation (S1145 and HR1908) pending in Congress.

This legislation radically changes the way damages are calculated to the detriment of patent holders. It would be better for US manufacturing if the current system to determine damages for infringing upon patents remains intact. Reasonable guidelines and decisions have been based on precedent and under the proposed legislation litigation would increase and patent certainty would decrease.

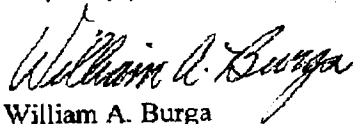
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