



April 16, 2008

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

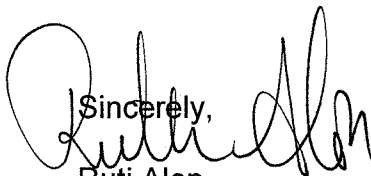
Dear Senator McConnell,

I am a General Partner in Pitango Venture Capital, one of Israel's largest venture capital groups. My special interest is medical devices that have a worldwide potential.

One of the basic requirements of our firm, as is the case in most venture capital organizations, is that the innovation either has a strong patent or that it is patentable. In a world of pirates and counterfeiters, we rely on U.S. patents, which are the strongest in the world.

My concern is that the patent legislation currently in front of you weakens U.S. patents in several ways. Frankly put, if the current legislation is enacted in any form close to the version now made public, it will destroy the capacity of my firm to invest in new innovations. Certainly, these proposed changes will harm the economy of Israel, whose greatest product is start-ups of innovation companies.

The most onerous features of this legislation are the provisions on damages, post-grant review and the Applicant Quality Submission (AQS). I hope that the effects of these provisions on the Israeli economy are considered before this bill is made law.

Sincerely,


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