

UNITED *for* PATENT REFORM

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Bob Goodlatte
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker, Leader Pelosi, Chairman Goodlatte, and Ranking Member Conyers:

The need for Congressional action to stop abusive patent litigation is clearer than ever. This year is now on track to have more patent lawsuits filed than any year in history. Sixty-eight percent of all patent lawsuits brought in the first half of 2015 have been filed by Patent Assertion Entities (PAEs). As the diversity of our membership suggests, these lawsuits have been targeted at businesses large and small and in every corner of the American economy from Main Street businesses to technology companies.

Having received assurances that the *Innovation Act* (H.R. 9) will be amended to address our coalition's concerns with the pleadings provisions so that plaintiffs will be required to identify each claim of each patent they allege is infringed, and explain how the defendant is infringing, we, the undersigned members of United for Patent Reform, write to express our strong support for the bipartisan *Innovation Act* targeted at the abusive litigation tactics and to urge the United States House of Representatives to pass this important legislation without delay or changes that will weaken its reforms.

Swift passage by the House will mark a critical step forward in the effort to combat abusive patent litigation, a problem that costs the U.S. economy billions each year. Our coalition believes any final legislation agreed to by the House and Senate must address the issue of deceptive demand letters that PAEs send to retailers and thousands of other American businesses. In addition, we support the *Inter Partes* review (IPR) process, and for the most part, the Post Grant review process in their current forms.

The *Innovation Act* is a carefully crafted and balanced measure that protects the rights of patent holders and inventors during the litigation process while at the same time closing loopholes that allow PAEs to thrive. It includes a package of reforms designed to inhibit the

patent troll business model and promote a fair legal system for American businesses. Put simply, the legislation will protect American businesses from frivolous patent lawsuits that are a drain on industry and a tax on innovation. Our coalition thanks you for your leadership and looks forward to working with you to support the bill's passage in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

4A's (American Association of Advertising Agencies)

Adobe Systems Inc.

Alabama Grocers Association

Amazon.com, Inc.

American Apparel & Footwear Association

American Gaming Association

American Hotel & Lodging Association

American Institute of CPAs

American Public Power Association

American Society of Travel Agents

American Trucking Associations

Application Developers Alliance

Associated Oregon Industries

AT&T

Berkshire Hathaway Home Services

Best Buy

Bingo World

Birch Studio Graphics

Blueprint RF

BrandsMart USA

Brinker

Building Industry Association of Washington

California Association of Boutique & Breakfast Inns

California Broadcasters Association

California Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse

California Hotel & Lodging Association

California Retailers Association

California Technology Council

California Travel Association

Callware Technologies

Capitol Salvage

Capstone Photography

Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group

Carlson Wagonlit Travel

Chozick Realty

CipherHealth

Cisco Systems, Inc.

Coalition for Patent Fairness
Collage.com
Comcast
Competitive Carriers Association
Computer & Communications Industry Association
Con-way Inc.
Concord Coach Lines
Connecticut Daily Newspaper Association
Connecticut Energy Marketers Association
Connecticut Retail Merchants Association
Connecticut Veterans Chamber of Commerce
Consumer Electronics Association
Culver's Franchising System, Inc.
Cusson's
Demand Progress
Desktime LLC
Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce
Digital Signage Federation
Dillard's, Inc.
Dillon Mailing
Direct Marketing Association
Domino's
Dropbox
Electronic Transactions Association
Engine Advocacy
Facebook
Fish Construction NW, Inc.
Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association
Food Marketing Institute
Foursquare
GeLo, Inc
General Motors
Goby LLC
Google Inc.
Greater New Britain Chamber of Commerce
Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce
Heirloom Foods
Home Builders Association of Iowa
Home Builders Association of Lane County
Home Builders Association of Marion & Polk Counties
Home Shopping Network
Homecare Association of America, CT Chapter
Homes Eyewear
Hotel Association of New York City, Inc.

HRsmart
HTC America, Inc.
Independent Bankers Association of Texas
Indiana Builders Association
Indiana Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store Association
Indiana Retail Council
Insurance Association of Connecticut
International Franchise Association
Internet Infrastructure Coalition
Intuit Inc.
Irvine Chamber of Commerce
iZi Survey LLC
JCPenney
Kickstarter
Klamath Basin Home Builders Association
Landmark Professional Mortgage Company
Listrak
Lunatech
M-1 Studios LLC
Macy's
Maine Ocean & Wind Industry Initiative
Maine Renewable Energy Association
Maine State Chamber of Commerce
Maryland School Bus Contractors Association
Masergy Communications
Michigan Home Builders Association
Michigan Retailers Association
Missouri Grocers Association
Missouri Retailers Association
Mobile Comply
Mobile Technology Association of Michigan
Motor Transport Association of Connecticut, Inc.
Motorola Solutions
MPA-The Association of Magazine Media
My Fab 5
National Association of Broadcasters
National Association of Convenience Stores
National Association of Home Builders
National Association of Realtors
National Council of Chain Restaurants
National Grocers Association
National Restaurant Association
National Retail Federation
NCTA

NetApp, Inc.
New Hampshire Home Builders Association
New Hampshire Retail Association
New York Association of Convenience Stores
Newspaper Association of America
North Dakota Association of Builders
North Dakota Grocers Association
Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce
NTCA – The Rural Broadband Association
Ohio Council of Retail Merchants
Ohio Grocers Association
Ohio Home Builders Association
Ohio Hotel & Lodging Association
Ohio Restaurant Association
Olympico Strategies
Oregon Home Builders Association
Oregon Neighborhood Store Association
Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association
Oregon Retail Council
Overstock.com
Pacific Printing Industries Association
Pennsylvania Business Council
Plaid Pantries Inc.
Printing Industries of America
QVC, Inc.
R Street Institute
Rackspace
Realty One
Rebel Real Estate
Red Hat
Reno-Sparks Northern Nevada Chamber
Retail Association of Maine
Retail Industry Leaders Association
Retail Association of Nevada
Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce Coalition
Rhode Island Food Dealers Association
Rhode Island Hospitality Association
Rhode Island Retail Federation
Round Rock Chamber of Commerce
Sabre
Sail Point Technologies Inc.
Salesforce.com Inc.
SAS
Seagate Inc.

Security Industry Association
Software & Information Industry Association
South County Tourism Council
Southeastern Employment Services
Sprint
Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.
Technology Association of Louisville, Kentucky
Texas Association of Builders
Texas Communications
Texas Hotel & Lodging Association
The Internet Association
The Latino Coalition
Tyco International
U.S. Travel Association
Utah Hotel and Lodging Association
Verizon Communications Inc.
Virginia Retail Federation
Vizio
Whataburger
Xante
Yum! Brands, Inc.