

THE FINANCIAL SERVICES ROUNDTABLE

Financing America's Economy



1001 PENNSYLVANIA AVE., NW
SUITE 500 SOUTH
WASHINGTON, DC 20004
TEL 202-289-4322
FAX 202-628-2507

E-Mail info@fsround.org
www.fsround.org

June 21, 2011

The Honorable Lamar Smith, Chairman
House Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harold "Hal" Rogers, Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Smith and Rogers:

On behalf of the Financial Services Roundtable I commend you for your hard work in resolving the question of funding for the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO). PTO funding is the issue most related to the successful operations of the agency, so it is essential that those charged with running the agency have increased certainty about the fees needed to fund operations.

The patent system should work for everyone, be they independent inventors or businesses. Only with increased funding and increased certainty will PTO be able to build – and retain – the expertise necessary to bring the agency fully into the 21st century in a way that enables our patent system to remain the best in the world.

I support the resolution of this issue and commend you for your hard work.

Best Regards,

Steve Bartlett
President & CEO