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June 28, 2011

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Minority Member
Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

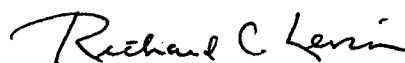
I write to offer my enthusiastic support for H.R. 1249, the "America Invents Act," as approved by the House last week. I hope the Senate will approve H.R. 1249 without further amendment at its earliest possible opportunity.

H.R. 1249 embraces key reforms recommended nearly a decade ago by the National Academy of Sciences committee that I co-chaired: adopt a more efficient first-inventor-to-file system, create an administrative mechanism for challenging patents, and reduce the importance of subjective elements in patent litigation. H.R. 1249, like S. 23, would also provide much-needed resources to the Patent and Trademark Office. Although I would have preferred the revolving fund proposed in S. 23, the agreements reached during the House's consideration of H.R. 1249 will provide an effective means of preventing fee diversion. The legislation would strengthen the US economy and enhance our ability to innovate.

I commend you and your colleagues on the Judiciary Committee for your unwavering commitment to patent reform over six years of debate. I hope that we will soon be able to celebrate meaningful patent reform that will create the foundation of a patent system fitting for the 21st Century.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,



Richard C. Levin

RCL:mg