



איגוד
תעשיות
האלקטרוניקה והתוכנה ע"ר

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April 14, 2008

Senator Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

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

Dear Senators Reid and McConnell,

I write today to share with you concerns about the proposed patent legislation (S.1145) that is being considered by the U.S. Senate.

The Israel Electronics Association represents one of the most dynamic sectors of the Israeli economy, composed of companies of all sizes. Regardless of size, however, all of us depend on U.S. patents to defend our creations against infringers and pirates. In the small country of Israel, those protections are particularly important because our industry is an important source of innovation, start-ups, and job creation.

The patent legislation that the Senate is now considering has three particular features that are of concern. The first is the proposed change in the way that damages are calculated. It would favor infringers over inventors and innovators. The second is the post-grant review process proposed by this bill. It would invite lawsuits and take three to five years from the life of a patent, a major loss for sure. Finally, the proposed Applicant Quality Submission (AQS) would impose massive and costly new burdens on patent applicants. Israel is a country with few resources other than the creativity of its people. We rely heavily on strong U.S. patents as a means of securing financing for our start-ups and expansions and to defend these creations against infringement.

We hope that the effects of this legislation on the Israeli economy will be considered before it is enacted. If I, or this Association, can supply you or your colleagues any additional information, please let me know.

All the best,

Yehuda Zisapel, Chairman
Israel Association of Electronics and Software Industries