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January 30, 2012

The Honorable David Kappos  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
US Department of Commerce  
Madison Buildings (East & West)  
600 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

**Re: Response to Request for Comments: Nationwide Workforce Program  
Docket No. PTO-C-2011-0066**

Dear Under Secretary Kappos:

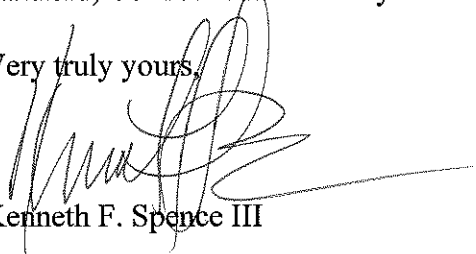
I write to express Travelers' support for the State of Connecticut's proposal to host a satellite office of the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Travelers is a leading provider of property casualty insurance for auto, home and business, with significant operations in Hartford, Connecticut. Travelers has a history of innovation dating back to patents granted in the 1920's. As an owner of insurance-related patents in the fields of e-commerce, information technology and data processing, among others, Travelers relies on strong patent protection as part of its intellectual property program.

Establishing a Connecticut satellite office would be an excellent way for the USPTO to meet its objectives of reducing the patent application backlog and improving patent examination quality, while also better serving the Northeast region's high concentration of insurance and financial services companies, and the universities and entrepreneurs that support them.

Accordingly, Travelers strongly supports Connecticut's proposal to host a satellite office in Hartford, Connecticut. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Kenneth F. Spence III

KFS:dmb

