I strongly encourage you to reduce or eliminate the use of "Software Patents".

I am a software engineer and entrepreneur who has decided to stop the development of innovative web products due to the huge number of overlapping software patents covering the space. I do not have the resources to withstand the undue legal liability through patent infringement that could arise.

This is not because my ideas are not original, but because too many unduly broad patents have already been issued. If properly challenged, many of these patents would fall due to obviousness or evidence of prior art. But lacking the resources to mount such a defense, I simply avoid making creations that would otherwise be of benefit to society.

I do not believe this is the intended effect of patents. I and the country would benefit from a better law.

Andrew Cantino