

**From:** Kirk M. Hartung  
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Section 101 patent eligibility has been a serious problem for inventors, patent owners, and patent attorneys and agents at least since the Supreme Court's Alice decision. Neither the courts nor Congress has resolved this problem.

USPTO Director Andrei Iancu's [2019 Revised Patent Subject Matter Eligibility Guidance](#) is a good start to correcting the inconsistent application of section 101 that has weakened the U.S. patent system. While there may be room for further refinements to these guidelines, including examiner training, the Director's initiative is appreciated and should be supported by Congress, the courts, patent practitioners, and patent owners.

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