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Sent: Monday, September 27, 2010 3:00 PM
To: Bilski_Guidance
Cc: [e-mail redacted]
Subject: Recommendation for Patent reform

To whom it may concern,

I would like to add to the number of requests you have no doubt received requesting to end the issuance of computer software patents. I am a software engineer, my income depends directly on professional software development, and I work for companies that regularly patent software algorithms as part of development. Regardless, the overwhelming belief among my coworkers and clients is that software patents are *bad* for business. We, and our managers, apply for software patents primarily out of fear of future litigation, and it would be a great change for the industry if software was *not* patentable.

Computer software development is a rapidly morphing industry, and only just getting started, but is already facing serious growth issues because of patents on techniques that either are, or shortly become, extremely obvious as hardware capabilities increase. These short-sighted patents stifle creativity and inhibit development and growth, precisely the opposite of what patents are supposed to encourage. As suggested by the Free Software Foundation, computer software consists of already non-patentable mathematics, which is merely performed by a machine instead of a human, and should not be patentable.

Thank you for your time,

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