

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 30, 2012

The Honorable David Kappos
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and
Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Madison Building West
600 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Undersecretary Kappos,

We enthusiastically support the submitted proposal to establish the next United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Satellite Office in San Diego, California. We represent a broad, bipartisan group of government officials ranging from the full Congressional delegation to state legislators to county and city representatives. With all the various policy positions we hold and political pressures we face, it is rare that we are able to find one issue we all can agree on; yet, we all completely agree that San Diego offers the USPTO all the hallmarks it seeks in locating a satellite office.

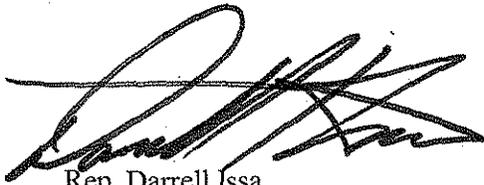
San Diego boasts a diverse and highly skilled workforce that will enhance USPTO's efforts to continue expanding its Nationwide Workforce Program. Because San Diego's innovation workforce already appreciates and understands the importance of intellectual property, a new corps of Southern California examiners and supervisors will be able to advance USPTO's strategic goals to reduce patent application pendency while improving quality.

Additionally, San Diego's ideal location on the West Coast provides numerous possibilities to enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community, both domestically and internationally. The affordable cost of living and rich quality of life combine to give the USPTO remarkable recruiting and retention tools. Reasonable real estate costs and offices built for state of the art communication and IT operations will ensure taxpayer dollars are well utilized while encouraging greater productivity.

The proposal also enjoys broad-based support from San Diego's community leaders and embodies the true spirit of collaboration that has catapulted San Diego to the forefront of America's innovation ecosystem. Such collaborative spirit extends to this bipartisan request that San Diego be comprehensively considered as the next site for a USPTO Satellite Office.

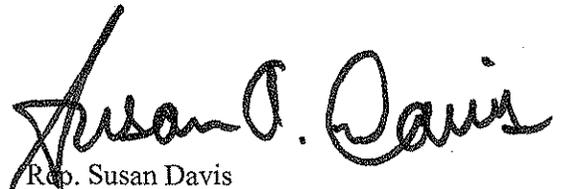
Sincerely,

San Diego Congressional Delegation



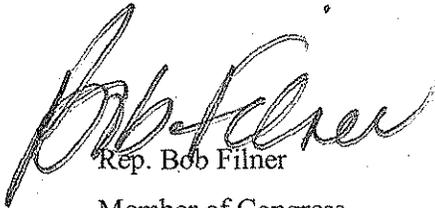
Rep. Darrell Issa

Member of Congress



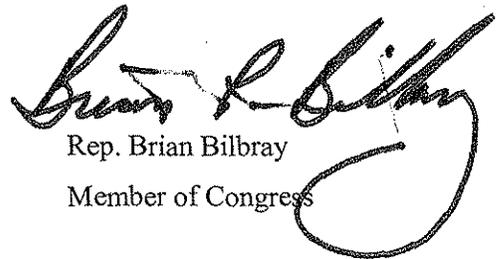
Rep. Susan Davis

Member of Congress



Rep. Bob Filner

Member of Congress



Rep. Brian Bilbray

Member of Congress



Rep. Duncan Hunter

Member of Congress