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April 29, 2015

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Cornyn  
Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
517 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar  
Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
302 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Orrin Hatch  
Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
104 Hart Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Lee  
Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
361A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Leahy, Senators Cornyn, Hatch, Klobuchar, Lee and Schumer:

On behalf of the more than one million members of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® (NAR), we wish to thank you for the introduction of the “Protecting American Talent and Entrepreneurship Act (PATENT Act).” We view the reforms in this bill as a meaningful way to protect American businesses from broad claims of patent infringement based on patents of questionable validity.

NAR, whose members identify themselves as REALTORS®, represents a wide variety of real estate industry professionals. REALTORS® have been early adopters of technology and are industry innovators who understand that consumers today are seeking real estate information and services that are fast, convenient and comprehensive. Increasingly, technology innovations are driving the delivery of real estate services and the future of REALTORS® businesses. As a result, NAR members know firsthand that “patent trolls” divert significant time and money from their businesses and strongly support legislation to curb patent troll abuses.

Without needed reforms that assure that asserted patent rights are legitimate, the ability of businesses owned by REALTORS®, many of which are small businesses, to grow, innovate and better serve modern consumers will be put at risk.

REALTORS® continue to experience the pain that patent trolls inflict as they continue to file lawsuits at historically high rates, forcing our members large and small to divert resources that could otherwise go towards innovation and growth. The comprehensive reforms



proposed in the PATENT Act will strengthen and restore an essential balance to the patent litigation system that has been urgently needed for years.

Parties across the political and economic spectrum agree that the problems caused by patent trolls and abusive patent litigation must be addressed. A diverse group that includes businesses, consumer groups, legal scholars, economists, state legislatures and attorneys general have all come out in support of strong patent reform legislation.

We thank you for this important first step and look forward to working with you on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Polychron". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Chris Polychron  
2015 President, National Association of REALTORS®

cc: United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary