

UNITED for PATENT REFORM

United for Patent Reform is a broad coalition of diverse American businesses, small and large – from national construction companies, automobile manufacturers, and technology businesses to Main Street retail shops, REALTORS®, hotels, grocers, convenience stores, and restaurants – that have come together to advocate for a comprehensive solution to abuses of the current patent system. We encourage you to join our efforts by signing this statement in support of our core principles.

Core Principles

United for Patent Reform advocates for a patent system that enhances patent quality, advances meaningful innovations and protects legitimate American businesses from frivolous, broad patent claims from Non-Practicing Entities (also referred to as “patent trolls”). The coalition aims to protect the positive changes made by the America Invents Act of 2011, including the creation of *inter partes* review (IPR), an efficient and inexpensive procedure for businesses to fight patent trolls without having to settle or go to court. United for Patent Reform also seeks to maintain the benefits of the Supreme Court’s unanimous 2014 decision in *Alice vs. CLS Bank*, which confirmed that Section 101 of the Patent Act properly excludes abstract ideas like business methods performed using conventional computer techniques. Together, IPR and the *Alice* decision have decreased frivolous litigation and freed up resources for increased R&D spending and job creation.

As a coalition, we support solutions that eliminate or minimize the incentives that encourage abusive patent litigation. In addition to protecting IPR and the benefits of the Supreme Court’s interpretation of Section 101 of the Patent Act in *Alice*, the coalition supports the following reforms:

- Require that patent demand letters include truthful, basic information.
- Require patent owners to explain in detail the basis for the alleged infringement when they file a complaint.
- Ensure that claims between a patent owner and a manufacturer proceed before claims between the patent owner and the manufacturer’s end users.
- Make patent litigation more efficient so that weak cases can be dismissed before expensive discovery.
- Require trolls to pay for the discovery they request beyond core documents so that they cannot run up costs just to force a settlement.
- Require that a losing party who brings a frivolous case pay the other side’s attorney’s fees—and make sure they can pay.
- Maintain and improve administrative alternatives to litigation.

JOIN US: Become a general member of United for Patent Reform by signing below and emailing the signed form along with your organization’s logo in EPS format to contact@unitedforpatentreform.com. By signing, you grant the coalition permission to publicly list your organization as a member.

Name/Title: _____

Official Organization Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____