

From: Zach Dwiel [e-mail redacted] Sent: Friday, September 24, 2010 9:13 PM  
To: Bilski\_Guidance; [e-mail redacted]  
Subject: Software Patents

I would encourage you to reduce or eliminate the use of "Software Patents".

I am a talented computer programmer, of the sort whom one might expect would be the beneficiary of such patents. Instead, they are a disincentive for me to do any work in the field. I do not believe it is possible to release any significant piece of software in this country without exposing myself to undue legal liability through patent infringement.

This is not because my ideas are not original, but because too many unduly broad patents have already been issued. If properly challenged, many of these patents would fall due to obviousness or evidence of prior art. But lacking the resources to mount such a defense, I simply avoid making creations that would otherwise be of benefit to society.

I do not believe this is the intended effect of patents. I and the country would benefit from a better law.

Zach Dwiel