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To: ai_a_implementation

Subject: International Patent Protection for Small Businesses - Prior User Rights

Is the PTO aware that the provisions for 'prior user rights' and new 'foreign prior art' will be an insurmountable problem for small inventors? China is already notorious for concealing intellectual property theft, and China's Chief Intellectual Property Judges is on record saying, "...the bill...is friendlier to the infringers...it will make the patent less reliable, easier to be challenged and cheaper to be infringed...will weaken the patent protection."

See,

[http://www.reformai.org/sites/default/files/071107-China%20Intellectual%20Property%20News_Certified%20\(with%20Selectable%20Text\).pdf](http://www.reformai.org/sites/default/files/071107-China%20Intellectual%20Property%20News_Certified%20(with%20Selectable%20Text).pdf)

Small inventors do not have the resources to conduct discovery, litigate, etc. The costs will simply be prohibitive and destroy the value of most small entity patents.

This is literally a 'black' whole for small inventors. The practical barriers and costs of discovery 12,000 miles away in a foreign country, with complicity of less than friendly governments, together with the very likely possibility of 'cooking the books,' manufacturing or destroying evidence, etc. will make enforcement and valuation of patents essentially impossible.

What provisions will the PTO and the US government make to enforce small inventors' patents for them since they will not have the resources to enforce their patent themselves?

Thank you,

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