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As a recipient of demand letters and accused infringer, I support existing laws that prohibit patents on abstract ideas, laws of nature, and natural phenomena. Any changes to those laws would concern me greatly, leave my company exposed to further extortion attempts by patent trolls, threaten the U.S. economy, competition, and future innovation.

First, the laws that prevent companies from patenting abstract ideas have overwhelmingly benefited investors, innovators, startups, and consumers in software- and technology-based industries. They help ensure the freedom needed to create, develop, and bring new products to market.

Second, today's laws against patenting abstract ideas have enabled me and similarly-situated innovators to spend less on legal fees and instead invest in productive activities like research and development, employee salaries, and product marketing in the U.S. For example, when patent assertion entities can obtain (and assert) over-broad U.S. patents that cover basic ideas in, e.g., commerce, data transmission, or data analysis, it forces me and innovators like me to spend on extortionate settlement fees or exorbitant legal fees. When the patent office prevents companies from patenting the use of conventional technology to perform abstract ideas, it can remove much of this risk. And when those abstract idea patents have issued, the ability to file early motions to dismiss frivolous cases allows me and innovators like me to defend ourselves before incurring enormous litigation expenses.

Third, as an innovator creating new technology and launching new business lines, my success does not depend on obtaining patents on abstract ideas, laws of nature, or natural phenomena. Aside from the fact that current law creates appropriate space for innovation and reduces money wasted on legal fees, patent eligibility jurisprudence in the U.S. has not caused me to change my business strategies.

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