

From: Christian Renaud [mailto:christi[REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 2:20 PM
To: Rep. Bruce Braley; tom.lath[REDACTED] ; steve.ki[REDACTED] ;
dave.loeb[REDACTED]
Cc: ATR-LPS-PAEPublicComments; Tej Dhawan
Subject: Iowa Startups and the SHIELD Act

Iowa Representatives,

I am writing on behalf of startups from all around the state of Iowa to encourage your support of the SHIELD Act.

Abuse of our patent system by bad actors often kills innovation in its cradle. I have personally led startups that were the target of patent trolls and they exacted large sums of our scarce resources in legal and settlement fees, sapping us of much needed capital during the recession and contributing to the closure of a Des Moines security startup. If this type of behavior is left unchecked, the patent system that was designed to protect innovators and inventors will become an impediment to innovation at a time this country needs to be rapidly creating our next key industries.

I hope startups from your home state can count on your support of this important legislation, so we can continue to build the next generation of businesses in the Hawkeye state.

Feel free to contact me if there is anything I can do to help.

Best regards, Christian Renaud

Christian Renaud | StartupCity Des Moines | phone (515) 564-9551 |
www.startupcitydsm.com | @startupcitydsm