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FILE:

**PATENT BRANCH, OGC
DHEW**

DEC 27 1977

December 16, 1977

To: APLA Board

Re: Hearings by Senator Nelson's Subcommittee

Gentlemen:

I enclose a document I have received, and a rough draft of an idea for a letter to Senator Nelson which might be written and followed up with a personal call, or which perhaps better ought to be the subject of a personal call without the letter.

As you know, Senator Nelson has been introducing foul intellectual property legislation every Congress for years, and we ought to commence to develop a working relationship with him and his staff, even though we can not ever have any rapport with him.

And we need to press for the right to file our position paper and be heard at hearings he holds to support his pre-conceptions. We should also hand-carry our testimony to all the Congressmen and Senators that represent our various members.

-- Or some such.

Have we a position of record to present?

* * *

Futile as the effort seems, I wonder whether anybody has any better ideas?

Where stands our effort to employ a lobbyist?

Regards,

Tom
Tom Arnold

TA: ef
encl.

cc: Mr. Chuck Haughey

APLA Board
December 16, 1977
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P.S.:

Since the above was dictated, I have talked to Chuck Haughey, Chairman of APLA's Committee on Government Patent Policy.

Chuck is informed that we could likely get the minority member of the committee, Senator Weicker of Connecticut, to request and obtain an extension of time until the end of February or some such, in which to file a position paper as part of these hearings.

Perhaps first, however, our President ought to telephone Ben Gordon, Senator Nelson's legislative assistant, and make the request direct on grounds of APLA's next Board meeting being February 1st.

And Chuck is already working on some sort of abbreviated but pertinent response to Nelson's accusations which could be adopted by the Board and filed.

Ben Gordon, now Senator Nelson's assistant, some of you will remember was formerly in that position for Senator Long when Long introduced his government-take-all proposals -- which illustrates in part the power of such assistants and the importance of our establishing contact with such as him and maintaining it continuously over the years.

It seems that Senator Nelson may not have had the courage to make his move until Senator McClellan died, but from now on we may see a lot of this sort of thing and need to prepare for it.

The Nelson subcommittee includes Haskell, D. Cal. and Weicker, R. Conn.

Tom Arnold