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April 29, 2025

The Honorable Thom Tillis  
US Senate  
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Tillis,

On behalf of the North Carolina Life Sciences Organization, I want to thank you for reintroducing the Patent Eligibility Restoration Act and the Promoting and Respecting Economically Vital American Innovation Leadership Act. These two pieces of important legislation will bring much needed certainty and protection for patent holders, particularly those early innovators, crucial to American ingenuity.

PERA brings certainty and overdue clarity to Section 101 of the Patent Act. The existing uncertainty in the law has been a major impediment to the cutting-edge work of our innovators. In addition, this legislation would also afford US innovators the same protection now enjoyed by their foreign counterparts. At a time when the American people are demanding that critical industries be brought home, this equal treatment will be especially important.

The PREVAIL Act will empower startups and small businesses by realigning the Patent Trial and Appeals Board with Congress's original intent. Lawmakers had hoped the PTAB would provide a faster and cheaper alternative to costly federal court litigation. Instead, it has been abused to make it much harder and more expensive for small innovators to protect their patents. Promoting fair treatment for inventors, improving efficiency and ensuring the USPTO has adequate resources to administer the patent system will work to again incentivize American innovation and enable small entrepreneurial companies to compete.

As you know, NCLifeSci represents the life sciences industry in North Carolina with over 250 members, both large and small, the great majority of whom rely on intellectual property as the basis of their business and the lifeblood with which they can raise funds to advance their technology and hopefully provide treatments and cures for patients, food to feed the world and sustainable options for our climate.

NCLifeSci applauds your commitment to hearing from interested parties and we look forward to working with you and helping you to ensure passage of these important safeguards to our American patent system.

Sincerely,

Laura F. Gunter  
President, NCLifeSci

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