

July 13, 2026

Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: We Work For Health Statement for the Record: From Genes to Machines: the Patent Eligibility Debate

Dear Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

On behalf of [We Work For Health](https://www.weworkforhealth.org), a coalition of national and local business leaders, labor organizations, biopharmaceutical companies, patient advocates and other healthcare stakeholders united in support of policies that foster innovation and facilitate the delivery of cutting-edge medicines, we appreciate the opportunity to submit comments ahead of the July 14 hearing, *"From Genes to Machines: the Patent Eligibility Debate."*

As the Committee examines the future of patent eligibility, we urge policymakers to recognize the critical role that clear, reliable, and predictable patent protections play in sustaining American innovation and competitiveness. For decades, the U.S. patent system has fueled breakthroughs in medicine, biotechnology, and other advanced industries. Today, however, uncertainty surrounding patent eligibility is creating challenges for innovators, investors, and researchers working to develop the next generation of technologies and medical treatments.

This uncertainty is particularly consequential in the life sciences sector, where developing new therapies requires years of research, significant investment, and substantial risk. Many promising treatments never make it through clinical development, making patent certainty essential to attracting the capital needed to pursue breakthrough innovations. Emerging fields such as gene therapy, precision medicine, diagnostics, and other biotechnology platforms depend on a patent system that gives innovators confidence that their inventions can be protected.

In that context, the **Patent Eligibility Restoration Act (PERA)** represents an important step toward strengthening and modernizing the U.S. intellectual property system. As the Committee considers the issues raised during this hearing, PERA offers a practical framework for addressing uncertainty in patent eligibility law and restoring greater clarity and predictability. The legislation would help ensure patent protection remains available for innovations that are critical to the future of gene therapy, precision medicine, and other transformative advances in the life sciences.

Strong patent protections remain indispensable to the biopharmaceutical industry. Patents support the investments required to discover, develop, and bring new medicines to patients

while also promoting competition through the eventual entry of generic alternatives. This balanced framework has helped make the United States the global leader in biomedical innovation while expanding access to affordable medicines. Today, nearly 90% of prescriptions dispensed in the United States are filled with generic medicines, demonstrating that strong patents and robust competition are complementary objectives.

Patent certainty is especially important for startups and emerging biotechnology companies that rely on intellectual property protections to attract investment and advance promising discoveries. When eligibility standards are unclear, it becomes more difficult to secure funding, launch new ventures, and translate research into patient benefit. At a time when strategic competitors such as China are investing heavily in biotechnology and other critical technologies, the United States should focus on strengthening the incentives that support domestic innovation.

As Congress considers the future of patent eligibility, we believe PERA warrants serious consideration as a meaningful step toward restoring predictability, encouraging investment, and preserving American leadership in innovation. We respectfully urge the Committee to consider the role PERA can play in strengthening the U.S. innovation ecosystem, advancing medical progress, and ensuring the United States remains the global leader in life sciences innovation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dan Leonard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and last name "Leonard" clearly legible.

Dan Leonard
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