

APPENDIX ``C-22/1''

MACMASTER UNIVERSITY**FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES****OFFICE OF THE DEAN**

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January 27, 1987

Mr. A. Malone, Chairman,
Special Legislative Committee
on Bill C-22,
Room 158 Confederation Bldg.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Malone:

I am writing to express, as strongly as possible, my support for the proposed amendments to the Patent Act as it applies to pharmaceutical products. I have been occupied with the study of drugs and their beneficial and adverse effects since my graduation from medical school in 1987. My perspective is that of a university-based clinical pharmacologist and now the chief academic officer for McMaster's Faculty of Health Sciences. It is in this latter capacity that I feel moved to indicate my support for the proposed legislation.

I believe that the protection of intellectual property rights is of critical importance to the university community. We are being asked, on the one hand, to develop constructive relationships with industry as a means to increasing funding for biomedical research. We cannot, on the other hand, be asked to take such steps in an environment which is clouded by denial of intellectual property rights to those same companies who are being asked to contribute to our research endeavours. In the long run, I believe sincerely that the health of Canadians and, in fact, the cost of health care generally will be better served by the development of improved and more cost-effective medication. Such progress can only be achieved through basic and clinical investigation initiated by the pharmaceutical industry alone or in concert with the academic community. We cannot realistically expect the pharmaceutical industry to invest in research and development if they are not to be allowed a fair return on their intellectual enterprise.