United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Join the Bicameral Congressional Inventions Caucus May 24, 2016

Dear Colleague:

We write to invite you to become a member of the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Inventions Caucus. As you know, inventions and discoveries fuel the U.S. economy, create jobs and provide benefits to the public.

The purpose of the Congressional Inventions Caucus is to provide a forum for inventors to showcase innovative products and educate members and staff about the innovation ecosystem.

The Caucus also allows Members of Congress who have an interest in innovation, patent and copyright laws, business, finance, and strategic issues to gain a deeper understanding of how these complex issues interact and impact our nation's economy. Specifically, the Caucus examines different challenges for individuals, businesses, and entrepreneurs when moving an idea from research and development to commercialization and market entry. This includes the roles that our national labs, research universities, and technology transfer offices play as incubators of invention, how inventors and investors are connected to bring ideas to consumers, and the ways in which government can incentivize the development of innovative products and processes.

In addition, the bipartisan in Inventions Caucus seeks to provide a platform for inventors, startups, and businesses (large and small) to communicate with lawmakers in order to strengthen our competitiveness, foster economic growth, and promote innovation right here in America. In the coming months, we hope to hold luncheons, briefings, and other events to facilitate discussion on relevant issues.

If you have any questions, or would like to join, please contact Lauren McCarty in Senator Daines's office (<u>Lauren_McCarty@Daines.Senate.gov</u>) or Shelby Boxenbaum in Senator Hirono's Office (<u>Shelby_Boxenbaum@Hirono.Senate.gov</u>). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mazie K. Hirono

United States Senator

Steve Daines

United States Senator