



The *WALT DISNEY* Company

Robert A. Iger
President and Chief Executive Officer

April 28, 2009

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hatch,

I want to let you know how pleased I was to learn of your selection as the Chairman of the Senate Republican High Tech Task Force. Your leadership on these issues has been both evident and admired for many years, both within the High Tech Task Force and dating back as far as your early days in the Senate.

During a time of great economic challenge and uncertainty, creativity and innovation remain the source of great hope for our nation's future economic and cultural prosperity. The Walt Disney Company has a strong history and commitment to creativity and innovation. For more than 80 years, we have been a company dependent on creative innovation. Walt Disney himself was a tireless innovator, and as a company we adhere to the same great vision of technology as a powerful enabler of storytelling and entertainment. Whether it is through the work of Walt Disney Imagineering, the artists and engineers that make up our animation and live action studios, the many people in our media networks business who are transforming new media distribution, or those designing the next generation of consumer products, we are committed to being a driver, not a consumer, of creative and technological innovation.

As you know, this sort of creativity and innovation is directly responsible for the creation of millions of high-paying American jobs and for unparalleled contributions to our GDP and balance of trade. In 2007, the motion picture and television industry alone was responsible for 2.5 million American jobs, as well as for over \$41 billion in wages to U.S. workers and \$38 billion in payments to U.S. vendors and suppliers nationwide. This same activity resulted in \$13 billion in income and sales taxes and a \$13.6 billion surplus balance of trade.

Our nation needs the service of people who understand the importance of protecting American creativity and innovation, as well as, the impact of government policies on the creative sector of our economy. Senate Republicans are to be commended for choosing someone who is so highly competent and knowledgeable on these issues to head the Republican High Tech Task Force. I very much look forward to continuing a warm and productive relationship as you lead the activities of this group of Senators.

My sincere regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert A. Iger".

Robert A. Iger