

consumer action

Education and advocacy since 1971

www.consumer-action.org

**1170 Market St., Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94102
415-777-9648**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Docket No. PTO-C-2020-0055

November 30, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

Consumer Action¹ writes to oppose the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's (USPTO) proposal to how discretionary denials are made. We believe that the changes being considered will delay generic drug competition and will increase the cost of prescription drugs for U.S. consumers.

Consumer Action requests that USPTO focus on patent quality because invalid patents cost consumers access to high quality generic drugs and make necessary medicines unaffordable.

Thanks you for considering our opposition to the increased use of discretionary denials which leads to higher drug prices for too many Americans.

Sincerely,

Linda Sherry
Director, National Priorities
Consumer Action

¹ For nearly five decades, Consumer Action, a national non-profit organization, has worked to advance consumer financial literacy and protect consumer rights in many areas, including credit, banking, privacy, insurance, housing, healthcare and utilities. The organization achieves its mission through several channels, from direct consumer education to issue-focused advocacy. For more information, visit www.consumer-action.org