From: wing [e-mail redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2010 3:41 PM
To: Bilski_Guidance
Cc: [e-mail redacted]
Subject: Please stop software patents

Software patents hurt individuals by taking away our ability to control the
devices that profoundly influence how we exercise our   personal freedoms,
including how we interact with each other. Now   that computers are
near-ubiquitous, it's easier than ever for an   individual to wish to create or
desire to modify software to perform the specific   tasks they want done -- and
more important than ever that they be   able to do so. But a single software
patent can put up an   insurmountable, and unjustifiable, legal hurdle for many
would-be developers. This is not a limited instance but happens frequently,
and will continue to do so unless the USPTO ceases, or at least severely
limits the granting of patents on software.

The Supreme Court of the United States has never ruled in favor of the
patentability of software. Their decision in Bilski v. Kappos further
demonstrates that they expect the boundaries of patent   eligibility to be drawn
more narrowly than they commonly were at the   case's outset. The primary point
of the decision is that the   machine-or-transformation test should not be the
sole test for   drawing those boundaries. The USPTO can, and should, exclude
software from patent eligibility on other legal grounds: because software
consists only of mathematics, which is not patentable, and   the combination of
such software with a general-purpose computer is   obvious.

Thank you,
ben wing