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March 24, 2011

The Honorable John Kerry
U.S. Senate
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Lugar
U.S. Senate
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark Udall
U.S. Senate
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Kerry, Lugar and Udall;

On behalf of the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA), I am writing to applaud your leadership in introducing S. 565, the "StartUp Visa Act" and to offer our endorsement of this legislation.

TIA is a leading trade association for the information and communications technology industry, with over 500 member companies that manufacture or supply the products and services used in global communications. Our member companies have long supported legislation to update our nation's system for awarding visas to foreign workers. Your legislation provides a thoughtful and innovative way to accomplish what should be a universal goal of attracting the best and brightest minds in the world and enabling them to do business in the U.S.

The United States has a long history of innovative entrepreneurs who have changed the world. It should be U.S. policy to attract and enable the next generation of entrepreneurs to start their companies here and your legislation provides an important tool to make this a reality.

Again, on behalf of our companies, TIA appreciates your strong bipartisan commitment to and leadership on this legislation and we look forward to working with you to enact this legislation this year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Grant E. Seiffert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Grant Seiffert
President