

July 30, 2013

The Honorable Jay Rockefeller
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science and
Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Thune
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science and
Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: SIIA Supports the Cybersecurity Act of 2013 (S. 1353)

Dear Chairmen Rockefeller and Ranking Member Thune,

On behalf of the Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA), I write to express support for the Cybersecurity Act of 2013 (S. 1353). SIIA is dedicated to maintaining and expanding the partnership between the private sector and the government to address our collective cyber security challenges, and we believe S. 1353 will help accomplish this objective.

SIIA is the leading trade association representing the software and digital content industries. SIIA represents more than 500 member companies that develop software and digital information content. Information technology (IT) and software security are critical issues to SIIA's members, who strive to develop safe, secure and state-of-the-art products that effectively serve their government and commercial customers alike while protecting their intellectual property.

As you know, today's cyber threats are more sophisticated and targeted than ever and are growing at an unprecedented rate. Cybercrime perpetrators have evolved from simple, low-budget hackers into cutting-edge state-sponsored threats, or well-financed criminal operations that contribute to a multi-million dollar cybercrime industry.

A critical cybersecurity priority for SIIA is to preserve IT innovation and technology neutrality. Additionally, SIIA has worked closely with the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) across a wide range of initiatives to facilitate and support the development of voluntary, industry-led standards, and we believe NIST has a critical function to play in leading this effort in the development of cybersecurity standards and

best practices for critical infrastructure. And SIIA is strongly supportive of efforts to enhance cybersecurity research and development, and to improve the cyber workforce and enhance education and public awareness of cybersecurity.

SIIA supports S. 1353 because it would accomplish these critical objectives for protecting the Nation from cyber threats.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue. As you and other Congressional leaders consider this legislation, we look forward to working closely with you to protect the Nation's IT infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Wasch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Wasch
President