



November 28, 2016

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Democratic Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Johnson  
Chairman  
Committee on Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Democratic Leader Reid, Chairman Johnson and Ranking Member Carper:

BSA | The Software Alliance writes you to urge you to take expedited action on H.R. 6004, the Modernizing Government Technology Act.

A well-functioning and modern Federal IT system is critical to maintaining the safety and security of our nation's IT infrastructure, protecting the personal information it contains, and improving the efficiency of government operations. Reliance on outdated legacy systems undermines the ability of US government agencies to operate efficiently and exacerbates the risks associated with cyberattacks. Within the last several months Americans have witnessed the impact of several high-profile and brazen attacks on US Government systems and officials resulting in the theft of an unprecedented amount of federal, commercial, and personal data.

The Modernizing Government Technology Act would mitigate these risks by updating agency systems, hastening the transition to cloud computing, and encouraging the adoption of IT products and services that will improve the federal government's cybersecurity posture. By establishing an Information Technology Modernization Board to review agency funding requests, the Modernizing Government Technology Act will prioritize spending on projects that address the most pressing security risks in a manner that will have the greatest governmentwide impact.

This legislation will help the Federal government take advantage of innovation to build a more secure and efficient IT infrastructure, and we urge you to expeditiously consider this bill as the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress comes to a close.

Sincerely,

Victoria A. Espinel  
President and CEO