March 26, 2020

Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Minister Nishimura:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (BSA) seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.


It is important that mandatory stay-at-home or self-quarantine orders and related policies limiting business operations exclude individuals who are necessary to maintain vital functions performed by information technology (IT) and IT infrastructure in order to meet such needs. It is also extremely important that definitions of exclusions be consistent both among and within countries; inconsistencies make it more difficult for our members to provide the continuity of services that are needed for stay-at-home and related policies to work effectively.

BSA's members operate, develop, and handle the maintenance of cloud services, software and hardware platforms, and other IT infrastructure that support functions that are vital, particularly in the unique circumstances that the spread of COVID-19 entails. These functions enable effective public health responses, support and maintain economic continuity, and underpin many essential personal needs of individual citizens. Health care providers, first responders, the vendors of food and essential supplies and their supply chains, business and government enterprises, critical infrastructures like utilities and financial services, and numerous other

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functions are reliant on IT and IT infrastructure. Without the necessary exclusions, stay-at-home orders and similar policies that cause substantial disruptions to IT and IT infrastructure providers could cripple these functions.

As you consider implementing mandatory stay-at-home or similar policy responses, we urge you to ensure the continuity and stability of these services by including IT and IT infrastructure in essential business exemptions that would not be subject to movement or lock-down restrictions. Such exemptions should include: global and local IT and IT infrastructure companies, cloud service providers, communications and web-based services providers as well as their vendors, manufacturers and suppliers. In order to provide continuous service to critical infrastructure companies in Japan, it is necessary to exempt the above vendors. It is also critical to allow the on-going construction and installation of new facilities and infrastructure of such companies to ensure they are able to meet the rapidly growing demand for such essential services.

Globally, software and other IT companies are taking significant measures to improve the public health response to COVID-19, and our members are eager to continue working with government and non-governmental stakeholders to confront this crisis together. As you further consider policy responses, BSA and its members are eager to serve as resources to help make these policies as effective as possible. Thank you for your leadership during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
March 26, 2020

Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Minister Takemoto:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (BSA)\(^1\) seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.


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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
March 26, 2020

Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Hirai-sensei:

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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Minister Takaichi:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (BSA)\(^1\) seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.


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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance
March 26, 2020

Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Minister Kato:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (BSA)\(^1\) seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.


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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta  
Country Manager – Japan  
BSA | The Software Alliance
Masaaki Taira  
State Minister of Cabinet Office  
1-6-1 Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo  
108-8914  

March 26, 2020  

Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions  

Dear Minister Taira:

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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
March 26, 2020

Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Minister Kajiyama:

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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
March 30, 2020

Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Governor Ido:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (BSA) seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.


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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
Kensaku Morita
Governor of Chiba Prefectural Government
1-1 Ichiba-cho, Chuo-ku, Chiba City,
260-8667
Chiba Prefectural Government Office

March 30, 2020

Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Governor Morita:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (BSA) seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.


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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Governor Oigawa:

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Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Governor Nishiwaki:

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Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
Shogo Arai  
Governor of Nara Prefectural Government  
30 Noborijicho, Nara City  
Nara Prefectural Government Office  
630-8501  

March 30, 2020  

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Governor Arai:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (BSA) seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.


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BSA’s members operate, develop, and handle the maintenance of cloud services, software and hardware platforms, and other IT infrastructure that support functions that are vital, particularly in the unique circumstances that the spread of COVID-19 entails. These functions enable effective public health responses, support and maintain economic continuity, and underpin many essential personal needs of individual citizens. Health care providers, first responders, the vendors of food and essential supplies and their supply chains, business and government enterprises, critical infrastructures like utilities and financial services, and numerous other functions are reliant on IT and IT infrastructure. Without the necessary exclusions, stay-at-
home orders and similar policies that cause substantial disruptions to IT and IT infrastructure providers could cripple these functions.

As you consider implementing mandatory stay-at-home or similar policy responses, we urge you to ensure the continuity and stability of these services by including IT and IT infrastructure in essential business exemptions that would not be subject to movement or lock-down restrictions. Such exemptions should include: global and local IT and IT infrastructure companies, cloud service providers, communications and web-based services providers as well as their vendors, manufacturers and suppliers. In order to provide continuous service to critical infrastructure companies in Japan, it is necessary to exempt the above vendors. It is also critical to allow the on-going construction and installation of new facilities and infrastructure of such companies to ensure they are able to meet the rapidly growing demand for such essential services.

Globally, software and other IT companies are taking significant measures to improve the public health response to COVID-19, and our members are eager to continue working with government and non-governmental stakeholders to confront this crisis together. As you further consider policy responses, BSA and its members are eager to serve as resources to help make these policies as effective as possible. Thank you for your leadership during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Governor Yoshimura:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (BSA) seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.


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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
March 31, 2020

Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Governor Kawakatsu:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (BSA) seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.


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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
March 30, 2020

**Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions**

Dear Governor Koike:

COVID-19 presents one of the most complex challenges governments around the world have faced in modern times. As you consider options for responding to this challenge, BSA | The Software Alliance (BSA)\(^1\) seeks to support decisions that maximize public health and safety while maintaining essential functions that millions of citizens depend on for critical business and personal, including healthcare needs.


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Sincerely,

Ryohei Kakuta
Country Manager – Japan
BSA | The Software Alliance
March 30, 2020

Subject: Ensuring Necessary Exclusions from Mandatory Stay-At-Home Policies for Essential IT Functions

Dear Governor Kuroiwa:

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