



April 21, 2015

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Pelosi,

On behalf of BSA | The Software Alliance¹ (BSA), I write in support of successful passage of cyber threat information sharing legislation when it is brought the floor of the House of Representatives this week. Enactment of legislation that will foster more voluntary collaboration of cyber threat information while ensuring that privacy is protected is a priority for our members and the software industry at large.

As BSA members are fighting everyday against cyber attacks, we believe it is more important than ever to enact legislation to break down the legal barriers that currently discourage cyber threat information sharing in the public and private sectors. Taking these steps will greatly improve the situational awareness for organizations that are constantly under attack and for law enforcement efforts to deal with malicious cyber actors. Increased sharing of cyber threat information will also help identify malicious activity and vulnerabilities, better identify and predict the behavior of cyber criminals, curb state-sponsored cyber attacks and decrease the profit model for cybercrime. We are confident that all of this can be accomplished without comprising privacy.

To that end, both the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and Homeland Security Committee have done an impressive job developing legislation that would accomplish these goals (The Protecting Cyber Networks Act (H.R. 1560) and the National Cybersecurity Protection Advancement Act of 2015 (H.R. 1731)). Through the drafting and committee processes, the authors have sought guidance and input from a diverse set of stakeholders. They have also incorporated suggestions that will both encourage more organizations to share cyber threat information and improve collaboration and collective defense against cyber attacks while at the same time, ensure that private information is protected.

I appreciate your leadership on moving this important legislation forward to a successful outcome in House of Representatives this week. We support this bipartisan effort and look forward to working with you in the process to ultimately move a cyber threat information sharing bill to the President's desk for signature.

Sincerely

Victoria A. Espinel
President and CEO

¹ BSA | The Software Alliance (www.bsa.org) is the leading advocate for the global software industry before governments and in the international marketplace. Its members are among the world's most innovative companies, creating software solutions that spark the economy and improve modern life. With headquarters in Washington, DC, and operations in more than 60 countries around the world, BSA pioneers compliance programs that promote legal software use and advocates for public policies that foster technology innovation and drive growth in the digital economy.

BSA's members include: Adobe, Altium, ANSYS, Apple, Autodesk, Bentley Systems, CA Technologies, CNC/Mastercam, Dell, IBM, Intuit, Microsoft, Minitab, Oracle, salesforce.com, Siemens PLM Software, Symantec, Tekla, The MathWorks, and Trend Micro.