



April 3, 2013

The Honorable Mike Rogers
Chairman

The Honorable Dutch Ruppersberger
Ranking Member

US House of Representatives Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
Capitol Visitor Center HVC-304
US Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515-6415

Dear Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Ruppersberger:

On behalf of BSA | The Business Software Alliance,¹ I write to applaud your determined efforts to bolster America's cybersecurity posture. We believe the "Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act of 2013" (H.R. 624) represents a solid legislative framework that has benefited from continued refinement as you have solicited input from public stakeholders.

Promoting the sharing of cyber threat information, including real-time data, is vital in thwarting malicious hackers, cybercriminals, and foreign agents. You have correctly recognized that the best way to improve and accelerate public and private information sharing is to provide the right incentives and build trust. Moreover, by addressing disincentives and barriers that are impeding the free flow of actionable cyber threat information, the bill you have introduced also will promote nimble, adaptive commercial innovation, which is the best defensive strategy against a rapidly evolving threat landscape.

¹ BSA | The Software Alliance (www.bsa.org) is the leading global advocate for the software industry. It is an association of world-class companies that invest billions of dollars annually to create software solutions that spark the economy and improve modern life. Through international government relations, intellectual property enforcement and educational activities, BSA expands the horizons of the digital world and builds trust and confidence in the new technologies driving it forward. BSA's members include: Adobe, Apple, Autodesk, Bentley Systems, CA Technologies, CNC/Mastercam, Dell, IBM, Intel, Intuit, McAfee, Microsoft, Minitab, Oracle, PTC, Rosetta Stone, Siemens PLM, Symantec, TechSmith, and The MathWorks.

At the same time, we appreciate your openness to additional ideas that would further improve the bill by ensuring it provides robust privacy and civil liberties protections. In particular, BSA believes it would be ideal for a civilian agency to serve as the interface for any new, liability-protected information sharing between the private sector and government.

BSA thanks you for your determination to address this very important issue and looks forward to working with you as the bill moves forward through regular order.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Holleyman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "R" that loops back under the first name.