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March 29, 2012

The Honorable Mike Rogers
Chairman
Permanent Select Committee on
Intelligence
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable C.A. Ruppertsberger
Ranking Member
Permanent Select Committee on
Intelligence
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Ruppertsberger:

On behalf of the Business Software Alliance¹, I thank you for introducing the "Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act of 2011" (H.R. 3523). This bipartisan bill demonstrates a thorough understanding of the need to improve information sharing among and between private industry and the United States Government.

Promoting the sharing of cyber threat information, including real-time data, is vital in defending the country against 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. The bill you have introduced will create an effective framework by removing many of the regulatory and legal barriers currently impeding the free flow of actionable information while also promoting commercial innovation and protecting civil liberties.

¹ The Business Software Alliance (www.bsa.org) is the leading global advocate for the software industry. It is an association of nearly 100 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, AVEVA, AVG, Bentley Systems, CA Technologies, CNCIMastercam, Intel, Intuit, McAfee, Microsoft, Minitab, Progress Software, PTC, Quest Software, Rosetta Stone, Siemens PLM, Dassault Systemes SolidWorks, Sybase, Symantec, The MathWorks, and Trend Micro.

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Page Two

BSA thanks you for your determination to solve this very important issue,
and we look forward to working you as the bill moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Holleyman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Holleyman
President and CEO