



April 12, 2013

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Pelosi:

Our member companies are on the front lines of defending our country from cyber attacks that threaten to cripple our economy and jeopardize our security. We have taken significant steps to protect the integrity of our networks and the security and privacy of our customers. However, every day the threat continues to grow, and the attacks are more serious. Our companies' security personnel need access to real-time, actionable cyber threat information – a game changer in the words of many of them.

Protecting cyber space is a shared responsibility, but today's legal uncertainties prevent the private and public members of the Internet ecosystem from sharing critical cyber threat information in real-time. As the House considers several cybersecurity measures, we cannot overemphasize the importance of removing those legal uncertainties while, at the same time, providing important privacy and civil liberties protections.

On Wednesday, by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 18-2, following the adoption of several amendments designed to strike the proper balance between protecting our cyber and economic security on one hand, and addressing privacy and civil liberties concerns on the other, the House Intelligence Committee approved H.R. 624, the Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act (CISPA). Our associations and member companies commend House Intelligence Committee Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Ruppertsberger for their work in bringing CISPA to this successful conclusion of the committee process, and we now urge the full House of Representatives to pass the bill. Passage of H.R. 624 will help us to better protect our customers' data and our networks, and will serve the broad public interest in a more secure cyber environment.

We appreciate the hard work of all those involved in the process to date. Your bipartisan leadership on this issue is critical, and we stand ready to assist you in your efforts.

Sincerely,

Michael Powell
President & CEO
National Cable &
Telecommunications Association

Steve Largent
President & CEO
CTIA – The Wireless Association

Walter B. McCormick, Jr.
President & CEO
United States Telecom Association

cc: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives