

April 3rd, 2013

The Honorable Mike Rogers
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515



Dear Representatives Rogers and Ruppersberger:

On behalf of McAfee, I am writing to support the reintroduction of the “Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act of 2013” (CISPA). McAfee commends you for the leadership you have shown on cyber security, as you have educated your colleagues on the nature of the cyber threat and once again crafted a thoughtful piece of legislation.

CISPA gives the federal government new authority to share classified cyber threat information with approved companies so they can better protect themselves and their customers from cyber-attacks. The bill also empowers participating businesses to share cyber threat information with others in the private sector and enables the private sector to voluntarily share information with the government.

Leading information technology companies, security providers and their customers are uniquely positioned to act as early warning systems that can identify and help address cyber security attacks on a real time basis, including APTs, botnets and other incursions. But under current law these private sector actors can't share the information needed to effectively combat these threats. Better enabling information sharing, as outlined in CISPA, will help the private sector execute with the alacrity shown by our cyber adversaries and will enhance the public-private partnership that is so vital to meeting the cyber security challenge.

Another important part of the information sharing equation is protecting privacy and civil liberties, and your bill was amended several times during the last Congress to incorporate vital privacy and civil liberties protections. While these privacy improvements are significant, I urge you to continue your ongoing dialogue with the privacy and civil liberties communities to address any remaining legitimate policy concerns.

Getting an information sharing bill signed into law during this Congress would be a significant accomplishment and represent an important and necessary first step toward enhancing our nation's cyber security. I commend you on the progress made thus far, and look forward to working with you and your staffs as the bill works its way through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Gann', is written over a printed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'T' and 'G'.

Thomas Gann

Vice President, Government Relations