

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

R. BRUCE JOSTEN
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

1615 H STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20062-2000
202/463-5310

November 29, 2011

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

Dear Representative Rogers:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region, supports the "Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act of 2011," which would be an important step in assisting the nation's public and private sectors to prevent, deter, and mitigate the array of cyber threats from illicit actors without imposing burdensome regulations on industry.

Chamber members devote substantial resources toward protecting sensitive consumer and business information and critical infrastructure. This bill would address the needs of companies to receive timely and actionable information from government partners to protect their computer networks and those of their customers. It would knock down policy and legal barriers that have limited the healthy sharing of cyber threat information between and among elements of the public and private sectors. It would also allow "certified" businesses, their employees, and other information-sharing organizations to anonymize or restrict the information they provide to others, including government agencies and departments.

In addition, this legislation would ensure that threat information voluntarily shared with the government would be exempt from public disclosure and would be prohibited from use by officials in regulatory matters. The bill would also provide liability protection for companies that protect their own networks in good faith or disclose cyber threat information with other eligible entities. Moreover, the Chamber expects that the information-sharing efforts envisioned in this bill would serve to supplement, rather than replace, the public-private partnerships fostered under the National Infrastructure Protection Plan framework, which continue to mature.

This bill includes the several policy recommendations the Chamber has proposed for improving cybersecurity and information-sharing processes. The recent defense industrial base pilot project is a key model for demonstrating how government cyber threat intelligence can be shared with the private sector in an operationally usable manner.

Making cyber threat intelligence more readily useful and available is fundamental to any long-term endeavor to defend our country and make our communities more resilient. The

Chamber commends your leadership on this important issue, and looks forward to working with you to advance this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Bruce Josten". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "R." and last name "Josten" being more prominent.

R. Bruce Josten

cc: The Honorable Mac Thornberry, Chair, House Republican Cybersecurity Task Force
The Honorable C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, Ranking Member, House Permanent Select
Committee on Intelligence
The Honorable Michael McCaul, Co-Chair, Congressional Cybersecurity Caucus
The Honorable Jim Langevin, Co-Chair, Congressional Cybersecurity Caucus