



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MG GREGORY J. VADNAIS
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL AND DIRECTOR

June 27, 2012

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

Dear Chairman Rogers,

We congratulate you and the House Intelligence Committee for working together on cybersecurity issues and authoring H.R. 3523, the Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act. This bipartisan legislation will greatly enhance cooperation and information sharing between the federal government and the private sector. We are pleased that H.R. 3523 overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives earlier this year and call on the Senate to swiftly pass this important bill, which is an important first step to combat those who seek to do harm to the economy, our infrastructure, and engage in espionage through cyberspace.

Since taking office in January of 2011, we have been tasked by Governor Snyder to develop and implement the Michigan Cyber Initiative. As you know, the Governor's plan will protect the entire cyber ecosystem by ensuring confidentiality, integrity, and availability to our citizens, businesses, and industry. In order to adequately prevent and detect cyber threats, information must be shared in a timely way. We are pleased that your bill will enable the federal government and private sector partners do just that. It is a great model for Michigan to replicate at the state level.

The State of Michigan is leading the nation in cooperation at all levels of government. In 2011, Michigan hosted the national kick-off of Cybersecurity Awareness Month and continues public engagement through quarterly Cybersecurity Breakfasts. Just last month, Michigan was a lead state in the Department of Homeland Security's 2012 National Level Exercise, which focused on cybersecurity. The State is also bringing together the National Guard, State Police, the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget, the private sector, educational institutions that are NSA Centers of Excellence, and our federal partners at the Departments of Homeland Security, Energy, and Commerce to develop an unclassified Cyber Range, allowing these organizations to safely simulate cyberattacks and be better prepared for inevitable real world situations.

Michigan is also creating the Cyber Command Center to work with our fusion centers and the Michigan Cyber Defense Response Team to combat the daily barrage of over 100,000 cyber-attacks to the Michigan.gov domain. Information sharing between the state and our partners in business and industry is critical to mitigate the potential economic and public safety consequences of cyber-attacks. More information on the Michigan Cyber Initiative can be found at www.michigan.gov/cybersecurity.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue. We stand ready to assist you in any way.

Sincerely,

Major General Gregory J. Vadnais
The Adjutant General
Michigan National Guard

Colonel Kriste Etue
Director
Michigan State Police

David B. Behen
Chief Information Officer
State of Michigan