



July 14, 2016

The Honorable Will Hurd
Chairman
Subcommittee on Information Technology
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Culberson
House Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Barbara Comstock
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Kevin Yoder
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Jamie Herrera-Beutler
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Gerry Connolly
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Robin Kelly
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Derek Kilmer
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Ted Lieu
U.S. House of Representatives

Re: The Modernizing Outdated and Vulnerable Equipment and Information Technology Act of 2016

Dear Chairman Hurd, Chairman Culberson, Chairman Comstock, Representatives Yoder and Herrera-Beutler, Ranking Members Kelly and Connolly, and Representatives Kilmer and Lieu:

On behalf of the member companies of the Information Technology Alliance for Public Sector (ITAPS),¹ I am writing to express our strong support for the Modernizing Outdated and Vulnerable Equipment and Information Technology Act of 2016 or the MOVE IT Act. We applaud the work of the sponsors to address the important issue of funding IT investment in the federal government to keep pace with innovation. We believe that the proposal effectively moves the devotion of IT dollars from an analog age into the digital era and creates the opportunity for agencies to effectively fund their IT needs for cloud computing, IT modernization, cybersecurity and future information technology development.

The proposal offers support and strengthens the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program, or FedRAMP, to institute a true “qualify once, use many times” approach to setting and enforcing security criteria and metrics for cloud providers and agencies in the federal market. Companies have invested millions of dollars in achieving and maintaining FedRAMP Authorization to Operate. The proposal clearly acknowledges those investments companies have made in the federal market and clarifies the preference for FedRAMP authorization as a criterion for federal government competition. Finally, the proposal provides a clear focus for better industry and government collaboration, an accelerated approval process, training of agency and industry personnel, establishes a requirement to set key performance metrics for the FedRAMP office and clarifies the roles and responsibilities of individual agencies who want to deploy cloud solutions.

¹ **About ITAPS.** ITAPS, a division of the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), is an alliance of leading technology [companies](#) building and integrating the latest innovative technologies for the public sector market. With a focus on the federal, state, and local levels of government, as well as on educational institutions, ITAPS advocates for improved procurement policies and practices, while identifying business development opportunities and sharing market intelligence with our industry participants. Visit itaps.itic.org to learn more. Follow us on Twitter [@ITAlliancePS](#).

The legislation also accelerates the acquisition and deployment of cloud computing services. Agencies have been slow to adopt cloud services and to take advantage of the many benefits it can offer. Federal agencies now spend approximately 8.2 percent of the \$89 billion federal IT budget on these services, while approximately 80 percent of the total budget is spent on maintaining legacy IT systems. By increasing the level of investment in cloud computing, the federal government can save millions, modernize its legacy infrastructure, and support innovation in government to meet future mission demands.

Last, we enthusiastically support the IT System Modernization and Working Capital Fund as proposed in this bill. We cannot let our government sink into acceptance of generations' old technology because of strict funding cycles that inhibit agencies from procuring the latest innovations that could help them meet mission needs. ITAPS has long advocated for flexible funding solutions, like this working capital fund, that create the ability for agencies to have the ability to invest in IT in a timelier fashion and break IT investment decisions away from the broken appropriations cycle. These provisions will make significant strides in changing the way we fund and modernize IT solutions and we commend the authors for including the concept in their bill.

ITAPS and its member companies are committed to working with the sponsors to see this proposal adopted. We are also committed to working with agencies to adopt innovative technologies that will lead to better constituent services, deliver greater efficiencies for the taxpayer and enable greater capabilities and technological advantages for the government mission. Should you have any questions, please contact Pam Walker at pwalker@itic.org or 202-626-5725.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A.R. Hodgkins", with a stylized flourish at the end.

A.R. "Trey" Hodgkins, III, CAE
Senior Vice President, Public Sector