

September 15, 2016

The Hon. 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 Hon. Kevin McCarthy House Majority Leader

The Hon. Steny Hoyer Minority Whip The Hon. Jason Chaffetz Chairman Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

The Hon. Elijah Cummings U.S. House of Representatives

The Hon. Gerry Connolly U.S. House of Representatives

The Hon. Robin Kelly U.S. House of Representatives

The Hon. Ted Lieu U.S. House of Representatives

## Re: The Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2016 (MGT Act)

Dear Chairman Hurd, Majority Leader McCarthy, Minority Whip Hoyer, Chairman Chaffetz, Ranking Members Cummings, Connolly and Kelly, and Representative Lieu:

On behalf of the member companies of the Information Technology Alliance for Public Sector (ITAPS), <sup>1</sup> I am writing to express our support for the Modernizing Government Technology (MGT) Act of 2016 (H.R. 6004) and applaud the sponsors for their work. This bipartisan legislation would reform the way we fund and modernize information technology (IT) solutions and permit government IT to better keep pace with innovation. We believe that the bill creates the opportunity for agencies to effectively fund their IT needs for cloud computing, IT modernization, cybersecurity, and future information technology development. We commend your staffs for collaborating and working with ITAPS and our members to introduce this much needed legislation.

ITAPS has long advocated for greater flexibility in funding solutions that enable agencies to make timely IT investments. The MGT Act creates new options outside of the funding cycle for IT investment and offers ways to makes dollars available to agencies when they are ready to invest. By doing so, agencies can be nimbler in their identification and acquisition of information technology solutions and more effective in their deployment of IT solutions for mission needs and for the delivery of constituent services.

ITAPS and its member companies are committed to continue working with Congress to improve and perfect this language as it moves through the legislative process. Specifically, we wish to ensure that, as part of the agency Working Capital Funds, discretion for agency Chief Information Officers in IT investment decisions is not diluted,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> **About ITAPS.** ITAPS, a division of the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), is an alliance of leading technology <u>companies</u> 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.

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and that incentives for participation in both funding options are not undermined or eroded by coupling repayment requirements in the IT Modernization Fund with savings deposited into the agency Working Capital Funds.

Again, we are pleased to be able to support this legislation and we thank you for the engagement you and your staffs afforded ITAPS and its' members as these concepts matured to become the MGT Act. We look forward to working with you further as the bill advances. Should you have any questions, please contact Pam Walker at <a href="mailto:pwalker@itic.org">pwalker@itic.org</a> or 202-626-5725.

Sincerely,

A.R. "Trey" Hodgkins, III, CAE

Senior Vice President, Public Sector