



Information Technology Industry Council

July 30, 2013

The Honorable Jay Rockefeller
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Thune
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Rockefeller and Ranking Member Thune:

The Information Technology Industry Council (ITI) is writing to express our support for S. 1353, the Cybersecurity Act of 2013. Your legislation is a very important step to advance cybersecurity policies that protect U.S. critical infrastructure from cyber threats. We particularly commend you for making technology neutrality and innovation the cornerstones of your bill, as they are essential to our ability to keep pace with ever more sophisticated cyber threats. We ask that, as the Committee marks up the bill, it continue to focus on the following key principles:

- Leveraging public-private partnerships and building upon existing initiatives and resource commitments, rather than regulatory, top-down approaches;
- Facilitating swift private and public sector response and adaptation to emerging threats through the development and adoption of new security technologies;
- Properly reflecting the borderless, interconnected, and global nature of today's cyber environment (including global standards development); and,
- Be based on risk management, and directly focus on bad actors and their threats.

We also strongly support the bill's focus on cybersecurity research and development (R&D) because, again, we believe that innovation is the best tool we have to defeat cyber threats. Finally, we appreciate the bill's emphasis on public awareness of cybersecurity and cyber safety, including consumer education and digital literacy, because of the effectiveness of these efforts in stopping threats.

ITI and our members look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues in the Senate as the bill progresses through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Dean Garfield
President and CEO
Information Technology Industry Council