

April 28, 2017

The Honorable Jerry Moran United States Senate 521 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510 The Honorable Tom Udall United States Senate 531 Hart Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510

## Re: The Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017 (MGT Act)

Dear Senators Moran and Udall:

On behalf of the member companies of the Information Technology Alliance for Public Sector (ITAPS),<sup>1</sup> I am writing to express our strong support for the Modernizing Government Technology (MGT) Act of 2017. We appreciate all the time, effort, and commitment you have dedicated to reforming how the federal government funds and invests in information technology (IT). This bipartisan, bicameral legislation would enable new means to fund IT solutions, including for IT modernization efforts, and provide funding availability to permit government IT to better keep pace with innovation. We commend your staffs for collaborating and working with ITAPS and our members.

The time is ripe to transform the way the federal government acquires IT, and this bipartisan legislation is a substantial step toward that transformation. The federal government today spends about \$60 billion dollars annually sustaining their existing IT and their funding streams allow them to either continue to sustain those systems or modernize, but they do not have the funding to do both at the same time. The MGT Act creates the necessary new options for agencies to be able to sustain what is necessary for their mission, while investing in modernizing and transforming IT capabilities in the federal government for the digital era.

Again, thank you for the engagement you and your staff afforded ITAPS and our members. We look forward to continuing to work with you further as the bill advances through the legislative process. Should you have any questions, please contact Pamela Walker at <u>pwalker@itic.org</u> or (202) 626-5725.

Sincerely,

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

<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 <u>itaps.itic.org</u> to learn more. Follow us on Twitter <u>@ITAlliancePS</u>.